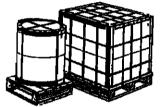
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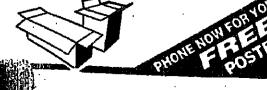


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#### MICROFLUTE

Continued from front page major market opportunity for corrugated, and give customers a much wider choice in material specification," says director

Terry Ousley. Cartonboard producers point out that microflutes are less likely to be specified for premium products and gift packs since the material cannot be embossed. They see it as a complementary rather than ompeting product.

Cartonflute is being produced at the Corrugated Products Lockerbie plant on a fingerless Asitrade corrugator which, says general manager Bob Thomson, means that no direct pressure is put on the board during production, so avoiding weak points.

Lockerbie has become the first UK integrated corrugated plant to produce a 0.75mm caliper microflute in-house, says the company (King Edward Park, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire DGI1 2BL - tel: 0576 203111, fax: 0576 203436). Graphics can be litho or preprinted, with a highly accurate print to knife register.

The corrugator can switch O E or B flute and runs at a speed equalling the newly nstalled Asitrade laminator.

For more paper and board news, turn to our feature starting on page 38.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

MULTIPACKS Continued from front page

Film unwinding and cutting is completely mechanical on the HS/D, and there is digital electronic control of all machine functions. Automatic size change is available as an option, but manual size change on the Meri Mate machine will take two operators around 40 ninutes, says Aetna.

A full diagnostics read-out is available, and the pc control will signal blockages up or

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## High gloss promotion

On show at Macropak last month was this promotional carton, designed and produced by Benson Box to demonstrate the company's new capabilities since installing its latest Heidelberg Speedmaster press.

Representing an investment of £1.8 million, the six colour 📗 machine is a 102S+LYLX and is the first of its kind in the UK. It is equipped with autoplate, semi automatic plate changing, preset register and logistics and

nonstop feeder delivery as well as being designed with two coating towers.

"We are now able to increase gloss to previously unknown levels through the application of a water based coating that is dried under a hot air knife before a second coating of high gloss uv," says Nick Benson, sales director of the company (74 Forest Road, Leicester LE5 ODG - tel: 0533 536644, fax: 514537).

These twin coating towers can also be used for metallic varnishes, as a seventh colour, which do not contain any

downstream. Maximum pack dimensions are 320mm width x 350mm length x 365mm height. The HS/D is also available in a version which can work with unsupported packs or with flat board.

Italian company Twin Pack, which is not part of the Aetna group, has just entrusted its agency for the British Isles to Actna UK (Greensbury Farm, Bolnshurst, Bedford MK44 2ET - tel: 0234 376744, fax: 376787).

So far, the UK soft drinks



Several in-line processes were used for these promotional cartons of the

The promotional carton on show had been matt emulsion varnished, spot uv varnished, foil blocked and embossed and was designed in-house to achieve a life-like portrayal of the cup of tea. These processes, as well as the printing, were all achieved in-line on the newlyinstalled press.

"This could not have been achieved previously," Mr Benson told Packaging News, "and certainly not at a cost effective price." The company is now planning to produce a promotional carton for the

market has been slow to catch up with the success of earry handles on the continent, but that is all set to change, say both Aetna and Meri Mate. Twin Pack has so far had over 100 installations of its single and twin lane systems in the rest of Europe, and there are four of its machines in other

the bottler plans to take two

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handles.

UK sectors. Actua is also now AETNA LTD: a distributor of 3M tapes and In a separate installation,

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strate its capabilines to d

THRALCY

Shrinkwrap handles achieved by Benson Borl month with the installator a Bobst SP 103-ER die cc mith with the installator and the control of the c with stripping and blanking

A highly controlled shrink sys-This will add anot: dimension to the stripp tem which collates and wraps "nearly weightless" pharmadepartment in terms of ciency and quality, and we'd ceutical bottles at high speed ing to the company, had has been developed by EDL demonstrates its aim of the for the US market. more than a 'me too' and Three lines of what

"the most highly conmelt labelling machinele this year. A 44 R(willful trolled 0.33 little bottles at 45,000b shrinkwraptles an hour, and a 33RFs. ping system he capable of labelling 65 we have two litre bottles an hours | ever built" the company (Pendand be) are being trial Estate, Edinburgh FR supplied to a major East 9Q11 - (el: 031-440 17시네 Coast phar-031-440 2014). maceutical

the bottles EDL's high control machine wrapping bottles of pharmaceuticals handled are or doctors'

Since

md Barry

amples, and so contain only hree or four pills, they are extremely light and unstable. he weight of an instruction pooklet glued to the side of each jar adds to this instability. EDL solved the problem of how to group the containwhich achieved both objec-

ers to form a uniform pack.

"The customer wanted to

be seen to be saving on waste-

ful packaging and also save

money. Our system eliminat-

ed the need for a carton,

tives," says Mr Tabor.

The end user required containers to be handled at speed, and by applying its flight bar technology EDL says its machine can collate and pack 400 bottles a minute in 4 x 3

70134.22

11/07/94

Continued on back page

mechanism incorporated into the

machines means that each collation can be split into two lots of Since

the book

let is not

A per-

dislodged.

bar systems use integral colla-

tors and orienting devices.

Lane dividers are servo driven,

marshalling bottles into spe-

cific lanes while ensuring that

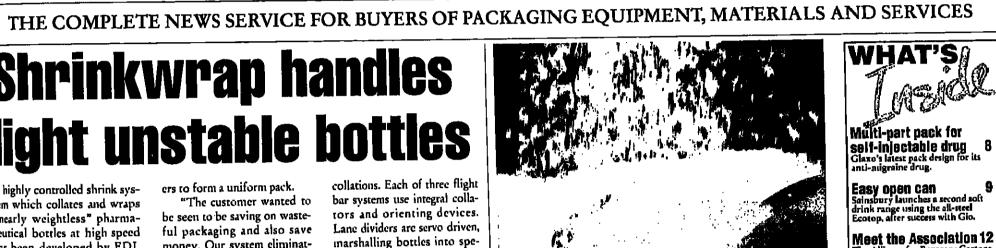
bottle size varies, minimal down time between runs

was another requirement, and EDL says it has reduced this to just two minutes. Adjustments are via hand wheels, giving maximum flexibility without the need for change parts, says the manufacturer (Upcott Ave,



### Milton Keynes helps hdpe bottle recycling

Plysu's closed loop hope bottle recycling has come on stream, with naterial supplied by Milton Keynes Borough Council's MRF (materials reclamation facility). While there are no throughput figures yet, Plysu (Waburn Sands, Milton Keynes, Bucks MK17 8SE - tel: 0908 582311, fax: 585450) says that production of post consumer recycled (pcr) flake is up to expectations (see PN August '93). The company is working on efficiencies in the system, and separation of natural hdpe from other colours. For further K7 Call for details See also APME report, page 6.



JULY 1994

The Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment talks about recycling and recovery.

Banding of carton blanks A banding machine for cigarette carton blanks allows users to keep up with increasing line speeds.

FEATURES

Scanpack 28-27
Some of the exhibits you can see at the Swedish show in October. Starpack awards 28-29

to Transit

30-37

Picking and placing the latest and best in palletting, robotics, casepacking and transit packs, and cage loading of milk polybottles.

REGU

Company News it was Packaging News Then

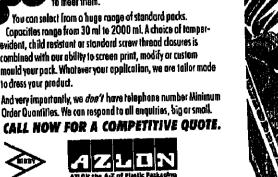
Environment news

CLASSIFIED ADS start on page 51 APPOINTMENTS start on page 63

22-23

### to meet them. fou can select from a huge range of standard packs. Capacitles range from 30 ml to 2000 ml. A choice of tamperevident, child resistant or standard screw thread closures is combined with our ability to screen print, modify or custom mould your pack. Whatever your application, we are tailor made o dress your product. Order Quantities. We can respond to all angulries, big or small.







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PRG levy deliberations to be circulated this month Sir Sydney Lipworth was due meeting held in June, Sir Syd-

to announce where the levy will fall to fund the Producer Responsibility Group's recycling and infrastructure scheme as Packaging News went to press.

Amid growing speculation as to who will be hit by the levy (see PN May), there is mounting concern over the amount needed to fund Valpak, who will run it, and whether there will be any legis-

lation to underpin the scheme. The main consultation report outlining all the submissions made to the PRG is

why the other options have "Further

along with Sir Sydney's pro-

posal. He tells PN that it will

include an explanation as to

consultation

There will then be a further month's consultation with the final revised PRG plan due for August but expected in September. The final goal is a promise of legislation in the Queen's Speech in November.

with, and thrash out, the eight options he is contemplating. These include a landfill levy, a shared burden tax, a combination levy as well as the three proposals in his original brief. However, many compa-

ney drew together members of

material associations, retailers

and others to present them

nies are becoming more vocal about not going along with the scheme if the levy falls on them. For this reason the PRG is desperately seeking Continued on back page

THE DACES FOR PACKAGING PRODUCTION & PRINT PAGE 39

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Flexography and Quality issues



In some ways the latest initiative from the Institute of Grocery Distribution (IGD) which aims to improve the legibility of the printed material on grocery packaging - is a strangely obvious onc.

Surely, making it easy for the consumer to read about any products details is a fundamental for any pack designer, orand owner or retailer? (see page 4).

The kind of company that spends thousands of pounds on designing and incorporating a pour spout, reclosable tab or tear tape into its pack - to aid the consumer - must already know how important it is to make packaging 'consumer friendly'. But can we assume this?

In a recent report published by Key Note, the total number of people requiring glasses in the UK is estimated to be 26 million, with a further 1.8 million people wearing contact lenses. So, with potentially 45 per cent of the population affected, this is by no means a minority issue. Also, the predictions about the next five decades seeing an explosion in the numbers of people over 60 in the UK, means that this will become as important as the issue of openability, previously highlighted by the IGD.

As with all of these things, something as simple as making a pack easy to read or easy to open, is not quite as simple on second glance. Although the IGD report acknowledges the pressures on industry to incorporate vast amounts of information on limited surface areas, it does not tackle this issue head on.

According to the IGD report, the two main issues with regard to customers' acceptance of labelling informa tion are the ability to read and also the ability to understand on-pack information. It is evident that there is conflict between the legal requirements for ever more information to be displayed on pack and the requirement to keep information simple, clear and legible, says the report. And this is before any mention of eco-labelling.

As ever, there is also conflict on costs, or should I say onflict on on-costs?

It is all very well and good for these initiatives on penability and legibility to be set up, but in the light of the current wranglings about funding for the Producer Responsibility Group's (PRG) recycling and infrastructure scheme, one wonders what progress will be made without firmer financial commitment (see front page).

Indeed, with a representative from one major retailer telling the Bics conference (see page 3), last month that any costs associated with the PRG environmental plans "will be part of the normal commercial obligations" it does seem that any spare money for whatever initiative will not be forthcoming. As ever, and as the retailer said: "Some [costs] will be passed on, some will be negotiated in price talks."

You have been warned...

Gail Lea, Editor

## **Shift on tagging policy**

In a radical shift in policy, the body coordinating UK research into electronic article surveillance (eas) has switched from the pursuit of a single system to advocating 'open' standards for compatibility between different suppliers' equipment.

The Centre for the xploitation of Science and echnology (CEST), previousfollowed the route of examning different eas systems with the objective of arriving at a universally acceptable solution (see PN Feb '94). But now, to enable source tagging - as opposed to in-store application of tags - to take off in the UK, the approach has, says Joshua Bamfield of consultant RMDP, become more realistie".

Progress towards standards has taken an international turn with CEST entering into a strategic partnership with the Faculty of Logistics at the University of Dortmund. Germany. A standards initiative will only work if undertaken on an international basis, says CEST. The US National Association of Chain Drug

A high speed dual infeed pal-

letiser for small bags has been

launched by FTH Foerdertech-

nik, offering advantages of flex-

ibility for bagged

product such as

detergent, sugar

The system

s especially use-

ful for display

pallets as used by

the warehouse

type supermar-

ket. Aldi in Ger-

many is already

displaying one

brand of deter-

gent in refill bags

palletised on FTH equipment,

says sales manag-

er Bob Pollard.

This high speed machine,

designed with bagged deter-

gents and soap powders in mind

but suitable for other product

such as flour, has a dual infeed

and flour.

small bag palletiser

Stores is also involved with identifying joint objectives.

According to Martin Swerdlow, project director at CEST, research will now follow the the strategy most favoured by retailers of seeking 'open' standards. These performance parameters will apply to each of the eas technologies, says CEST (5 Berners Road, London NI OPW - tel: 071-354 9942, fax: 071-354 4301).

"Minimum standards"

This objective, says Mr Swerdlow, involves agreed minimum standards, full compatibility and interchangeability. A key issue is deactivation which, if not properly handled, will cause many problems already experienced in France, for example, with customers' legitimately purchased goods setting off alarms in other stores,

Mr Swerdlow is himself impatient with those suggesting that CEST has not moved

productivity is required.

Some 8400 tkg bags can be

palletised an hour, and

quickly enough to satisfy retailers, some of which have gone ahead in trialling one existing system or another, but many of which have been waiting for final recommendations from CEST. "It is within the power of the EAS industry to get its own act together very quickly, if it really wanted to, says Mr Swerdlow.

The RMDP consultancy is organising a conference in cooperation with CEST, 'Intelligent tagging of merchandise', to be held at the Mount Royal Hotel, Marble Arch, London, on 12 October '94.

Aimed at representatives from the entire merchandising chain, speakers will look at the issues relating to source tagging and mapping out future progress. More details from RMDP (The Hideaway, Furze Hill, Hove, E Sussex BN3 1PA - tel: 0273 722687, fax: 821463).

For further

as well as other packs can be handled on the second infeed. Pallet sizes which can be

loaded on the machine include 800 x 1200, 800 x 600 and 400 x 600mm. Between the range of bags and trays which can be handled on the palletiser and the choice of pallet sizes, the system offers users the greatest flexibility, says FTH (Chatsworth

A Maclean Hunter Publication House, Maclean Humer House, Chalk Prime Busiane, Clockfosters Road, Barnet, ness Centre, lens EN4 OBU Raynesway, Fax: 081 242 3154 Derby DE21 7SR - tel: usiness Park, Urmston, lanchester M31 4QW - tel: 061 0332 672888, 776 4015, fax: 061 777 6628 fax: 679888). **Drigination:** PRS, Huntingder The single Printad: E.T. Heron & Co Lid,

infeed palleus er supplying Aldi can load whole or half pallets. FTH Hamburg project manager Reinhold Reiss

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DACE ACIDIC MENG/III Y 1994

The dual infeed palletiser for small bags by FTH Foerdertechnik says other changeover between product is detergent suppliers in Gersaid to be fast. Modification of many will now have to equip the bag infeed tracks means the themselves in a similar way. machine can stack 1kg and 5kg bags alternately. Collated trays

### PACKAGIN Pint milk bottle converting gives easy open

vmond A Silk, F Inst. Pkg

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081 242 314 designed specifically with 081 242 314 ergonomic easy opening in mind is being stocked in Tesco stores as an added incentive for 081 242 31

supermarket milk purchase. With a market share of liquid milk sales said to be 43 per

081 242 31 Walter M. Schneider, Via Sialun kets seem CH-6928 Manno, Switzerland set to consolidate their quota OG 1 776 4015 Converting World Sales Manager: largely at Aichael J. Reade 081 428 9797 ense of 081 242 315 doorstep 081 242 3150 deliveries by attract-Barbara Hibbert 🕺 081 242 3146 ing elderly or handi-OST 242 3157 capped 081 242 3038 consumers who other

081 242 3182 trouble 081 242 3021 opening cartons and standard polybottles.

Selkley Vale Dairy in Wiltshire launched the hourglassnecked bottle in conjunction with Tesco, after conducting tests with consumers who would normally find milk containers difficult to open. The narrow, easily-gripped neck makes it easier to open the

standard tamper evident cap. "We see this as an extra consumer benefit and realise that consumers like to see milk in bottles that reclose properly," says Charles Hunt, Tesco buying controller. The bottle is being trialled in a dozen selected West Country Tesco stores, used for whole, semi-skimmed

and skimmed milk. So far, the bottle has just been produced in a 1-pint size,

shopper incentive although it would be suitable for a 2-pint version, says blowmoulder Blowplast (Units 13-14, Dashwood Works, Dashwood Ave, High Wycombe HP12 3ED - tel/fax:

0494 472321). Given the target consumer, not primarily the family

pint bottle

nificant.

Ncw

machines,

which

would

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higher-

volume

produc

tion, are

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to be inst

is likely to

shopper the single

> -alled this month, says manager Alan White.

The new design will also fuel competition with the liquid carton manufacturers, who have recently introduced easy open options to meet similar consumer needs. With an increasing proportion of sales - particularly of staple products such as milk going to the 'grey consumer' suppliers are keen to add

value to packaging. Selkley Vale uses advanced chilling and packing techniques to allow processing and packing of milk within 24 hours. A £400,000 investment programme is currently underway to increase capacity, says the dairy.



### Conference outlines savings opportunities bulk delivery and storage and Delegates at the Turning pack-

aging waste recovery targets into opportunities to gain' conference, held by Bies International in association with Packaging News, heard that waste disposal costs. this will only be achieved if the government underpins the Producer Responsibility Group plan with legislation.

### "Material and labour cost savings'

Details of how to achieve savings were shown by both McDonald's and Safeway stores ple. Mr Matthews said the change from packaging soft drink syrups in 5 litre hape plastics jugs to a mixture of

bag in box using a pe film bag has saved them £1 million pounds in material, production and labour costs, plus additional revenue from reduced

Saleway gave extensive details on measures that can be adopted by all companies, and showed how it had achieved £1.2 million of savings and a reduction of 700,000 tones of packaging waste a year.

Discussion also focused on the customer supplier relationship. Michael Matthews, vice president director of quality at McDonald's Restaurants Ltd, said: "The relationship with suppliers is critical to our success. They are expected to work towards established goals for waste minimisation,

energy efficiencies and to produce sound production practices which minimise environmental impact."

### "Making demands"

Speakers encouraged delegates to make demands on their customers or suppliers. David Wheeler, general manager environment health and safety at The Body Shop International, explained his company does this by being very material specific. "The first choice for polymers for most primary packaging applications are restricted to polyethylene and polypropylene. Pvc will not be specified in any circumstance." Paul Knocker, vice presi-

dent environmental affairs at Continental Can Europe, said the big brand manufacturers are making demands on them and carrying our audits. While others reported that packers and fillers are also making environmental demands.

However, it was not all good news. David Eggleston, environment manager at Linpac Plastics International Ltd said, "We are seeing no pressure from the retailers. The only thing they are interested in is price and driving it down as far as they can."

Gail Gunn, environmental affairs director at Tetra Pak UK Ltd, detailed the educational efforts made by the company to highlight the different, often contradictory, pressures made on all packaging.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO** Quaker Oats

A Focus F250 label press installed by Map 80 Systems' labels and consumables division has already begun to improve the service available to customers requiring pre-printed computer labels.

The 10in, four colour central impression flexo press can run at speeds of up to 80m a minute. Installation of the system means that quality will be maintained as before, but with orinting carried out in-house.

Map 80 can, for example, now experiment with the same format on different substrates. The printer has more flexibility and, if necessary, can turn jobs round more quickly, says David Pennington at Map 80 (Unit 3, Kestrel Business Park, Ivanhoe Road, Finchampstead, Wokingham, Berks RG11 4QQ - tel: 0734 731800, fax: 731900).

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PACKAGING NEWS/JULY 1994

## Help for those with poor eyesight

with poor eyesight should be a major priority for designers and retailers, says the IGD (Institute of Grocery Distribution), which has unveiled proposals aimed at making key information easier to read.

This is the latest initiative in the institute's Consumer Concern Programme, which also sparked the continuing debate around openability. This set of proposals for legibility arises out of concern for the estimated 970,000 people in the UK who are blind or partially sighted and the increasing average age of the population.

"Lots of people are talking about what information should go onto packs. Our concern is that people whose eyesight isn't perfect should have a chance of

being able to read that informa-tion," says Dr John Gill of the RNIB (Royal National Institute for the Blind) introducing the initiative.

> "Headed boxes can be helpful"

Before the reading stage, information can be made easier to locate by simply adapting layout. Headed boxes, preferably tinted to a lighter colour than the main pack, can help. Bold lettering, bullet points

and italics should be used selectively for easier reading. Features to avoid where possible are long lines of text - especially small lettering - hyphens,

End of line packaging machinery

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are close together and lettering which is shadowed.

Point size, though not the only consideration, is clearly important, says the IGD. Six point is recommended for normal text and 12 point for warnings. White text on a dark background should not be used under 12 point, below which dark on light is better. It is best to avoid certain combinations because, the IGD points out, 16 per cent of the male population colour blind.

Budgens, which is represented on the IGD advisory working group alongside other retailers, manufacturers and consumer groups, says it has already implemented many of the recommendations on its regenerated own label products. Dip Chotai, marketing manager for own label, says that while the suggestions are sound, the report ducks the issues of legislation, MAFF guidelines for information and the basic concern of cost, especially for labels.

### "The need to project an image"

Packs for product such as cheese, says Mr Chotai, are relatively small, but labels must carry nutritional information, country of origin and weigh/price data. All this must be balanced against the need to project an image in order to sell the pack. There are also **Legibility Recommendations** Key recommendations from the IGD to enhance the legibilin

on-pack information are: • Use boxes to make the basic layout clear,

 ◆ Use bold typeface, bullet points and italies selectively, • Use short, well-spaced, left-justified lines of text, mixing upper and lower case,

 Use dark text on a lighter background where possible in text. less than 12 point,

 Use type of six point and upwards, 12 point for warnings, Use sans serif fonts,

Use recognised diagrams where possible.

technical limitations with packs such as yoghurt pots, he says, where print quality can be so poor that even six point may be unclear.

of opening instructions are d particular concern to Tem Pak, says marketing manager Birmingham University's for milk, James Bryant. Centre for Applied Gerontol-For a copy of the IGD ogy, also part of the working report, contact the institute in group, has worked on legibility research for Tetra Pak. Graph-

Letchmore Heath, Watford Herts, WD2 8DQ - tel: 092 ic designers for its cartons will 857141, fax: 852531.

research and the IGD finding

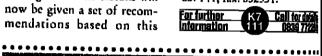
The clarity and standardisati

Wake up

to the new

packaging

sensation





## Overprinting system gives paints flexibility

Flexibility was the key to solvng a problem for Chromacolour International Ltd in labelling its just launched mail order range of multi-purpose artists colours.

The solution was achieved by installing a complete overprinting and labelling system custom built by Sessions of York (The Ebor Press, Huntingdon Road, York YO3 9HS - tel: 0904 659224, fax: 644888).

Described by Chromacolour as the only major product to be launched onto the fine art market during the past 30 years, the paints are supplied in 80 shades, and in metal tubes or clear plastics bottles.

#### **Variable Information**

"When we introduced the range we couldn't know how well and in what ratios the various colours would sell," explains Jon Prudence, Chromacolour's director of marketing. "As it was impracticable and costly to pre-print labels for each colour, we opted for a system which could overprint

individual product demand." The system comprises 1

Speedline III label creation package, a Mustang 1000 thermal transfer printer with rewinder and an RC30 automatic labeller. For the tubes, Sessions provides a series of 24 ing a printed colour strip as a point of reference. The bottles feature a five colour printed wraparound label containing fixed information, including company brand logo.

#### Applied in register

The Mustang 1000, linked to its computer system and driven by Speedling III, overprints both types of label with the colour name - in English, French and German - colour number and permanence rating at speeds up to 125mm a second. The labels are then applied in register to the tubes and bottles by the RC30, operating at up to 70 containers a minute.

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MP

Compared with energy recovery, and without that as an option, mechanical recycling rates for holpe bottles would have to top 52 per cent to make the same energy savings, says a report supported by APME (Association of Plastics Manufacturers in Europe).

Research carried out with successful recycling schemes run by Dow Europe, Otto and Ravago shows that mechanical recycling alone is inefficient unless combined with energy recovery, says the APME. Least efficient is a combination of recycling, incineration withfill, according to the report.

The research comes as Plysu ple begins production of recycled hope flake from collected containers. Material is diverted from the Milton Keynes municipal waste stream (see page 1).

According to Brian Haigh, technical director at Plysu, the APME is right to be looking at ways to make the best use of resources. In Plysu's case, it is better to source the material it requires locally rather than, say, from Germany, he explains, but the company is

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not saying that any single

Plysu md Malcolm Macintyre lists commercial benefits to the company alongside community interest and the meeting of government targets as the reasons behind Plysu's initiative. The company hopes that the installation will supply it with 1000 tonnes of recyclate in the first year, rising to

around 5000 tonnes a year. The APME believes the findings of the Dow report support the view that specific material types, waste streams, and geographic infrastruc-

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balance of solutions is the most efficient.

"Both legislators and consumers have adopted the mechanical recycling message with such enthusiasm that existing infrastructures may soon be overwhelmed," comments coauthor of the report David Russell of Dow Europe sa.

Copies of the report Weighing up the Options by David Russell and John O'Neill of Dow and Ian Boustead, can be obtained from the APME (Ave E Van Nieuwenhuyse 4, Box 3, 1160 Brussels, Belgium - tel: 010 32 2 6728259, fax: 6753935). For further K7 Call for details Information 200 0839 772268



A single piece of board which, when erected, provides an effective 'sleeve' to allow visibility for two bottles while at the same time giving strength and durability to the overall pack, has been designed by Trenton Box Company Ltd for products in the Simoniz range.

This is achieved by using a carrier board and a combination of cuts and creases, mak-

pack to Simoniz in the fla, says Trenton (Marston Road St Neots, Huntingdon, Camb PE19 2HF - tel: 0480 473693 fax: 406225).

The so called Twin Packs used by Simoniz for its Liquid Diamond Polish and Liquid Diamond Shampoo.

### Reusable transit solution

A resistant and conductive transit solution has been developed by Evode Industrial Division for solvented adhesives, with similar systems for hot melt and water based products.

Evode required transit packs which would be reusable rather than recyclable and offer the necessary resistance to solvents in the adhesives while ensuring there was no danger of combustion from static discharge.

tant plastics liner for its 200 litre drums which is attached to the container by an integral collar. When filling each drum, an airline is used to ensure that the liner fills out and that no air pockets are left. Once the drum is full and the liner

scaled, the steel lid can be secured as normal. Similar liners can be used in its one-tonne polybottle ibes.

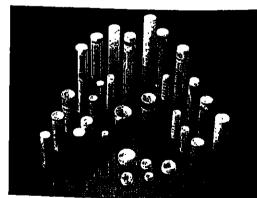
At the customer's end, the liner can be cut open and profuct dispensed through the bung or numbed from the drum ! which can be reused without any of the problems of product residue and the additional cost for their removal. The system will cut disposal costs for both Evode and its customers, says Richard Harris, industrial marketing manager.

Without disclosing the composition of the plastics liner, which it describes as specially engineered and of complex construction, Evode (Common Road, Stafford ST16 3EH - td: 0785 57755, fax: 52337) says it identified the product after lengthy research.

### "Stopping air pockets"

The solution is a solvent-resis-

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PACKAGING NEWS/JULY 1994

## Twin aperture container first

A twin aperture, 30 litre container has been developed by RPC Containers Rushden for leading chemical distributor, Ellis & Everard, the first time this combination has been used on a large container.

Pack design is based on RPC's 30 litre square/round container and will be used to pack hydrogen peroxide.

The mono layer hmpe container features two closures, a 66mm vented cap for the main aperture with a secondary trisure 3/4in bung on the other side of the top of the container. This ensures that there is no glugging when pouring, according to RPC (Northampton Road, Rushden, Northants NN10 6AL tel: 0933 59136, fax: 410406).

Special heavy duty hmpe has been used for this application because of the aggressive nature of the product being packed and the containers have received UN Packing Group II entification.

"We have been delighted with RPC's technical input and the container which has resulted," says David Morton, product manager at Ellis & Everard. "In particular the

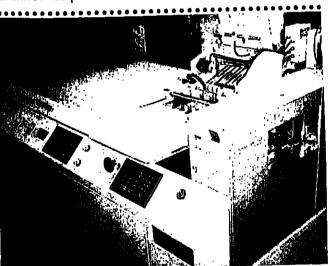
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The mono layer hmpe conteiner features two closures, a 66mm vented cap for the main aperture with a secondary trisure 3/4in bung on the other side of the top of the cantainer

unique anti-glug feature is a major boon for the packaging of this type of product."



### Metric batch counter

The first metric batch counter available from Longford Equipment International was demonstrated with a Sollas plastics/paper bander at Dutch exhibition, Macropak.

Suitable for products ranging from business card size up to 6 x 10in, the machine is perfect for anyone who currently wraps products, but would rather just band, says Longford (Gouverneur Roppesingel 81/2b, 3500 Hasselt, Belgium - tel: +32 11284026, fax: +32 11284032).

Increased production speeds and fast changeovers are also offered by this new unit. For instance, ten sets of 30 postcards (5 x 7in) can be batch counted and banded at up to 300 a minute.

"Sollas build the best banders available and we believe this combined develthe market," Edward Paterson of Longford tells Packaging News.

### Ps business integration

With a view to pursuing its multi-product customer focus, Elf Atochem UK Ltd's polystyrene business sales team has been integrated into the commodity plastics sales division based at the company's head office in Thatcham, Berks.

John Barron, the polystyrene business manager, and his team, will now report to

all responsibility for polyolefins, polystyrenes and pvc resins. Before the end of the year, the polystyrene sales administration personnel will also relocate to Thatcham (0635 870000). Customers will be informed separately of the date on which this move will take place, says the company.



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PACKAGING NEWS/JULY 1994

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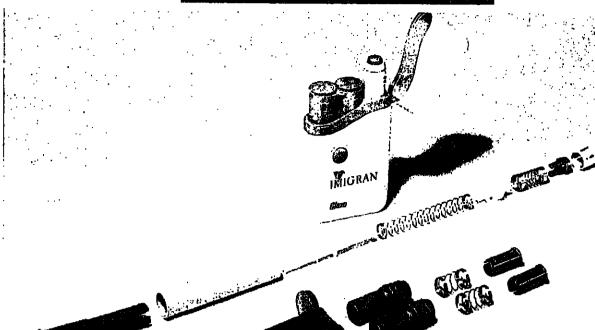
PACKAGING DIVISION

Two plastics material suppliers - DuPont and Elf Atochem have announced price increases for their materials, continuing the overall upward trend over recent months.

The price for all grades of DuPont's Mylar polyester packaging film has increased by a minimum of 15p per kg which is necessary, says the company (0442 218500), to offset its reduced margins, Rising raw material prices and the need for higher spending on environmental protection and waste recycling has accounted for this pressure on margins.

Elf Atochem says that with the supplies of styrene monomer and polystyrene becoming tighter over the last six months, the upward pressure on prices that has been experienced in the market since the end of 1992 is expected to accelerate during 1994.

A 20 per cent increase has led to a minimum price for general purpose polystyrene of £740 a tonne and £820 a tonne as an average for all ps grades, says the company (0635 870000).



Self-injectable device for anti-migraine drug

Glaxo's anti-migraine drug sumatriptan, branded Imigran in the UK, is now available for patients to administer themselves using a sophisticated self-injectable device.

The multi-part pack, which has taken eight years to develop, is manufactured and assembled for Glaxo by Betts Plastics, part of Courtaulds Packaging, within the Clean Room at the company's

Wrexham factory. The project represents an overall investment of £5 million.

The auto-injector device, and the overall pack presentation, was designed by Glaxo Research and Development Ltd. in consultation with other Glaxo companies and Betts Plastics (Colchester, Essex CO4 4HE - tel: 0206 753400, fax: 844002).

The function of the system operated injector, and two

The multi-part imigran pack is manufactued and assembled for Glaxo by Betts Plastics

tridges all

contained

cifically

casy to use.

In size and

appearance

the pen kit

resembles a

small mar-

ker pen

and can be

loaded by

with a pre-filled syringe.

two refill cartridges.

This procedure is said by

the company to save the patient

from the sight of the syringe or

needle even when loading or

unloading from either of the

prised of six separate mould-

ings and two springs while the

refill pack has two assembled

components which contain

two sub-assemblies, each made

up of two mouldings and a

spring. The light grey car-

rycase displays the Glaxo

name and the brand name -

logo tampo-printed in four

colours - and is itself manufae-

refill cartridge are held in

The pen kit and double

tured in three parts.

The pen kit itself is com-

place inside the case in a let blue compartment which turn, is attached to the case via an integral hinge on th side of the insert which dies inside the lid. This configure tion enables the lid to be opened on one side, which said to allow for easy access t "Procedure

saves the patient from the sight of the syringe or needle"

Once the refill cartridge inserted, a housing clip at the base of the cartridge locks into a circular hole on both the front and back of the carryease. To remove the refill pack after use, the patient simply depresses the two visible tabs and life the cartridge out.

All components, which are manufactured from either pp, acctal or abs, are made, assembled and tested within Wrexham's Class J Clean Room. Functional tests are also carried out on each device and refill eartridge, before it leaves the plant.



Ecotop easy open end: extended to Sainsbury's Cool Crush range

### Soft drink success for easy open end

The marketing advantages of the all-steel Ecotop easy open end, used with great success on Sainsbury's Gio soft drink, have been extended to a relaunch and extension of the retailer's Cool Crush range.

Although the easy-open advantages of the system have so far been applied to soft drinks, British Steel Tinplate (BST), which manufactures the can top, has had enquiries for applications as diverse as still soft drinks, beer and eider.

### "Convinced of potential"

While priding itself on being an innovator in packaging design, Sainsbury examined all ideas carefully before being convinced of their commercial potential, says Mike Bates, senior manager of soft drinks buying. "Ecotop has demonstrated its appeal, and we have seen the sales of Gio far outstrip similar products in our nores," he adds.

This time, Sainsbury decidd on a nationwide launch

rather than a phased introduc tion. The easy open feature of the can is a major selling point and is highlighted on the pack, six-can multipack and product literature. According to the store's own research prior to the launch of Gio, nearly three out of four consumers preferred the Ecotop to aluminium stay-on tabs.

### "Increasing

The Ecotop steel can end was developed jointly by British Steel (Group Commercial Office: PO Box 18, Ebbw Vale, Gwent NP3 6YL - tel: 0495 350011, fax: 497601) and other partners in Europe Hoogovens and Rasselstein. British Steel is planning to increase supply to meet this new demand.

The Ecotop contains 25 per cent recycled steel, and offers a positive environmental profile, says BST, in terms of energy used in production.

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CLOSURE

### **Speedy laser print** for barcode volume

ligh speed continuous laser printing for high volume users of barcodes is possible with the Laserfold 300E printer from Pentax. Running at speeds of up to 16 pages a minute, the 300E will print 300 dpi on continuous feed labels, and is designed for packaging and distribution environments.

"In addition to producing high quality accurate output which makes for easy barcode reading, the 300E provides premiums in terms of small size and low noise level," says John Dickins, information technolo-

gy product manager at Pentax. As it uses laser rather than

impact mechanisms it has a low noise level, below 53 decibels says Pentax (Heron Drive, Langley, Slough SL3 8PN - tel: 0753 792792, fax: 792794). The printer measures 460 x 185 x 523mm and weighs just 20kg.

It can be connected to most mainframe and midrange computers, or used on a network. Offering a series of proprietary interfaces, its standard emulations include the HP Laserjet II

### In-house embossing board quality achieved

Producers of corrugated board for display and gift cartons report an increase in the quality of embossing achievable with in-house processes which can equally be used for inicroflute grades.

Among supplies of the large whisky distillers, embossing and foil blocking in association with lithe lamination have been a standard part of their product for some time. There has sometimes been a problem in the past with a flattening of the decoration once the embossed board was laminated to the base flute.

But converters report that trials with different adhesives. material grades and embossing dies have produced results comparable, with, for example, more complex processes using thinner substrates sheet fed onto double face material.

As reported in PN last month, Cartonflute has been aunched by David S Smith Corrugated Products (King

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ildding film.

Edward Park, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire DG11 2BL - tel:

0576 203111, fax: 203436). Like E and B flute, of course, board for Cartonflute can be embossed in-house prior to lamination, and many end uses will require this process. Although embossing not carried out through the flute, we may have inadvertently given the impression in our last report that Cartonflute cannot be embossed at all.

Sean Mason, production services manager at Field Packaging in East Kilbride (PO Box 330, Leesburn Place, East Kilbride, Lanarks G74 4LR - tel: 03552 41188, fax: 77992). reports great success on the heavier flute grades, embossing and laminating on Bobst and Asitrade equipment. CORRUGATED PRODUCTS:

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able for testing prior to large

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the auto-injector is being used

of a pen kit, which is a spring

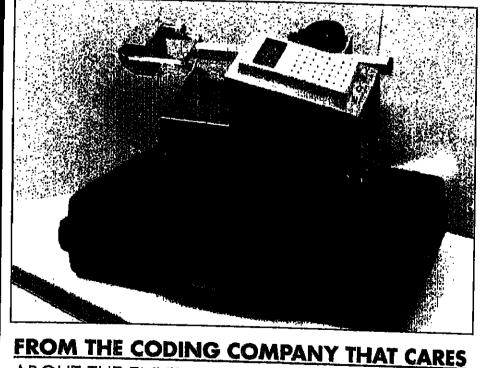
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### "Will not include any machinery'

Aimed at consumer goods, food and drink, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics/toiletries and diy sectors it will be held from 28 to 30 November at Olympia in London, and expects to attract around 8000 visitors and 150 exhibitors.

A smaller, more tailor made show than others, it will not

CUT and STACK

plete team involved in packaging retail products from the designer and marketeer to packaging technologists, brand managers and buyers.

Gary Swinford says: "Retailpack will have the advantage of offering visitors a concentration of purely packaging companies for consumer goods, providing a showcase of nothing but the type of company they want to see."

For more information contact PO Box 11 Kingswood, Bristol BSt5 7BY - tel: 0272 672556, fax: 672574.

INNOVATIVE

# Tailor made for retail Retailpack '95, a show dedicated to the \$6.6 billion consumer goods packaging sector, is being organised by Gary Swinford and Roger Coles with the latalises and contract packing. It aims to attract the complete state of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises of the food and Roger Coles with the latalises and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for Pp tape system and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing. Tougher adhesive bonding for latalises and design, containers and contract packing.

sive which can withstand the high temperatures required during the transportation of William Grant & Sons Glenfiddich Excellence whisky to the Far East has been developed by Dunlop Adhesives.

The adhesive is used for bonding decorative seals on the buttles of 18-year-old premium whisky. The requirement for the adhesive followed the launch of the whisky in the Far East market. Volume production output was increased and the seal eatures were also adapted.

INSERT A COUPON --

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th a patenced had medianem the ghee upo o-recum feeding in fact, our inserters will not of 1980, they'd best possible or Version.

Packaging News: "We changed from the original hot wax decorative seal formed in the cartouche area of the bottle to a replica injection moulded seal bonded to the bottle. An epoxy resin was inititally utilised, which allowed us to meet the desired increase in production levels."

However, the company perceived that temperature luctuations inside containers in the ships created instability in the adhesion bond.

"Obviously, it was essential that the quality image of our



Glenfiddich Excellence, with seals bonded by the Duniop adhesive

**Multiwall bottle meets** 

stringent conditions

for orange fruit juice

also using its application for

other embellishments to glass.

based adhesive has a broad

temperature tolerance and high

impact resistance needed for I

transit, says Dunlop (Chester |

Road, Birmingham, W Mid-

lands B35 7AL - tel: 021-373

8101, fax: 021-384 2826).

The high viscosity rubber-

products was not compromised

in any way by seals becoming

detached in transit. Equally it

was important that production

speeds should be maintained as

near as possible to those

achieved with the original

including humidity and transit

tests the Dunlop adhesive was

selected. William Grant is now

A multiwall bottle has

condition

After rigorous trials

adhesive," says the company.

"Discussed the problem

ed pp tape, adapted to retain

batch-specific inkjet coding,

has been developed by Redland

Roof Tiles with the Universal

With 144 types of tile pro-

duced at its Leighton Buzzard

plant, many with a very similar

appearance - especially once

protective opaque film has been

put over the top of each load -

Redland wanted a system

which guaranteed identification

of each pallet load while giving

it the stability it required.

Scuffing between loosely

packed tiles in transit is a par-

ticular problem in the industry.

Tape Printing Co Ltd (UTP).

the problem with UTP, the tape manufacturer came up with the solution of applying pands of adhesive tape around the top and bottom of each oad. This gives tightness to the layers while also including the Redland branding.

UTP and Redland worked

An X-Y traversing system for

mounting inkjet printers onto

ffs machines where variable

coding is required has been

Stepper or pneumatic actua-

tion or a combination of the

two is used on the system,

which can be mounted on most

varieties of ffs machine, whether

vertical or horizontal, across a

web or for packs in multiple

launched by Transpec Ltd.

A complete system for banding pallet loads of tiles with brandtype and width of tape. Weather resistance and printability were key considerations. In fact, the pp tape used includes desensitised patches to allow better adhesion of the inkjet.

loads of tiles

Redland designed the turntable which wraps tape around the load. Just before it is applied, the top and bottom lengths of tape are simultaneously coded. The inkjet, 100, was engineered by the company.

Information now put onto each pallet load includes the name of the type of tile, its serial type and a date code. The company branding was casily added to the base tape by UTP (Tape House, Shire Hill Industrial Estate, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 3AQ - tel: 0799 513300, fax: 521968).

Redland's Leighton Buzzard plant produces half a million tiles a week, with 40 or so lorry loads being shipped out every day. At any one time there may be 40,000 pallets awaiting delivery in the company's stockyard, so clear identification is obviously critical.



### **Biscuit colour impact**

Biending of separate graphic elements on Scitex was just one of the steps in a design for biscult cartons and tins which the Green House worked on for the Thal market.

Striking impact from vibrant colours was achieved with photographs of the biscults overlaid on swirls which used different coloured gals and masks to differentiate each variety. Good shelf standout was an important part of the brief says the Green House (64 High Street, Harrow-on-the-Hill,

Middx HA1 3LL - tel: 081-422 8178, For further 17 Call for deta



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containers in the first place. .33 to .45mm tin plate, the UN But now, there's a new option Pall is also economical, safe and

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British manufacturer to produce

a Tin Plate Pail which meets the

absolute integrity of UN testing

via PIRA and T&D Packaging's

printers that the company far closer to home. works with. Transpec will work on installations with any

A sensing bar, which can be easily changed and is equipped with a handwheel height adjuster, allows for rapid changeover between product, says Transpec (Hindley Green Industrial Estate, Hindley Green, Wigan WN2 4HS - tel:

Transpec's system - with a plc interfacing directly with the

host machine - is itself easily programmable, as are the inkjet

of the major inkjet companies.

0942 56669, fax: 59970). The uncluttered design is manufactured to hygienic standards which make it suitable for use in the food and pharmaceutical industries.

own NAMAS test station.\* It's time we did a little flag greater flexibility on quantities, Available in 20 and 25 litre sending hazardous liquids abroad you may have been

practical.

pails, talk to T&D Packaging

and blue.

and decoration.

Even in red, white

for a quality British product and



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wling House, Bowling Iron Works, Bradford BD4 8SX. Tel: 0274 728285. Fax: 0274 390731. Telex: 51435.

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Orange fru The Botop inert polymer container is made of an hdpebased multilayer material from Elf (4, Cours Michelet La Defense 10, Cedex 42required to

have a barner for uv rays and well as being sturdy, collapse resistant and

Following

oxygen 45 100 per cent

two years of development Joker decided on the Botop bottle after a number of trials.

positions. It can handle one,

two or three drop systems. While many packing lines will use hot foil printers for

PACKAGING NEWS/JULY 1994



T&D PACKAGING

Call on 0839 772268 or enquiry number K7-422

CE, the Alliance for Beverage Cartons and L the Environment has only two goals - to raise awareness of the environmental benefits of the beverage carton and to address related environmen-

Formed in 1990 as a nonprofit making international coalition of 12 manufacturers of paperboard and beverage cartons, it has offices throughout Europe for its national associations and alliances with other federations worldwide.

A small group of competitors came together recognising the threat to their business through increasing environmental legislation, and realising they had a lot in common, they set up ACE,

The Alliance does not marker the industry's products. Instead it provides a homogeneous view and aims to provide a quick and unified response to environmental matters as they affect ir.

Money is pumped into research and projects in order to ensure the goal is achieved. which has the double end of practical projects to increase recycling, collection and sorting of waste and political lobbying on the European and national fronts.

This is all coordinated by ACE's director general, Lyn

Trytsman-Gray, at the Task Force, which comprises Alliance's headquarters in Brussels. Ms Trytsman-Gray has many years of dealing both for the Government, consultancies and trade associations in Brussels and understands the machinery and machinations of Brussels's bureaucracies and foreign governments.

"Ensuring all the recovery options are available to member states"

The Alliance's current focus is on the Packaging Directive. "While the Alliance agrees with the Commission's objectives behind the proposal, the prime concern for the Alliance is to ensure that the Directive recognises that all packaging recovery options should be available to waste managers in the member states and that there is no discrimination between packaging systems," says Ms Trytsman-Gray.

There are two task forces. A project review board made up of seven or eight members companies, and the Recovery 20 people who thrash out tech-

Each year a number of projects are chosen to receive central as well as national funding. Some of 1993's projects include a plant a tree campaign involving 50,000 participants and the production of an environmental knowledge game in Denmark. France, Germany, the

Netherlands, Denmark and the UK all have market committees with a chairman. These decide which projects will get funding, discuss European Union (EU) policy and report to the Secretariat - Ms Trytsman-Gray and her two assistants. They then check that the committees are not duplicating efforts and pool resources.

In the UK during 1993, collection schemes were set up with local authorities, as well as a business link with the Celtech mill, where cartons are recycled into tissue paper.

"The UK is one of the hardest areas. It is more difficult to get markets for materials. There are not enough recyclers and processors," explains Mrs Trytsman-Gray.

"We are reluctant to go full steam ahead in the UK on collection since we don't just want to collect for the sake of it. In France they are keen and

of Beverage Cartons and the Environment (ACE) is facing up to the challenge of the EU packaging directive and the practical steps it is

taking to further

carton recycling and

Camila Reed reports

on how the Alliance

it's easier," she adds.

recovery.

Most of the cartons recycled in Germany go to Strepp and are made into tissue paper, kitchen and toilet roll. "We look at increasing recycling, but we work out what is environmentally and economically viable."

At Strepp, in Germany last year around 51,600 tonnes of cartons were recycled, but the economic and environmental costs were high. "We only believe in setting targets where it makes sense," Mrs Trytsman-Gray tells PN.

"Every country is different. We are trying different means of collection to see to what extent the consumer will separate in flats, or houses in each country. We recognise that the system operating in Germany will not work in France. It really does depend on the consumer and sometimes its quite frustrating."

In Finland one of this year's projects is to establish how many cartons are returned and how good this material is. ACE will publish some preiminary results on this shortly.

Other ongoing projects nelude investment in pyrolysis, to separate the varying elements of the beverage carton in order to facilitate recycling and an adventurous research programme with the Technical University of Lausanne to develop a semi-automatic sorting robot for used packaging.

"As selective collection, orting and waste management ystems used for packaging ecome more prevalent in Surope, there is a growing

a robot are four times fair than manual sorting. It: robot sorts up to two objects: second, while manually the average is one object our two seconds.

The most importanted for the next phase is to detaop artificial vision to increas the identification speed of health and packaging items to up to it objects a second. Aside from the promit

Director general Lyn Trytsman-Gray coordinates the ACE effort

need to develop more sophisti-

cated sorting systems to handle

packaging waste," explains Ms

"Using a

robot can

improve

safety of

workers"

The objectives of this project

are to demonstrate the techni-

cal and financial feasibility of

sorting used beverage cartons

and demonstrate that using

such a robot can improve

health and safety conditions

out manually, often in very

noisy and dirry conditions.

ACE hopes to convince the

waste management companies

to commercialise, buy and

to sort from a virtually unlim-

ited mix of materials such as

cartons, plastic bottles, alu-

minium cans etc. I-lowever, at

se sorted at a time. A multi-

planned for the next phase,"

Average sorting speeds for

says Ms Trytsman-Gray.

"This robot has the ability

install the robots.

Currently sorting is carried

projects to aid collection oning and recycling, Europea environmental policy disa ) by the Packaging Directors the Alliance's other focalpon

"The packaging Direction | is a priority and most of our energy goes into this. The common position is reasonable not ideal but a reasonable compromise. The sooner the Directive is resolved the bear However, there's a lot of do? in the detail and a lot to be worked out at national leed The problems we have had until now will be nothing com pared to implementation."

ACE also produces a quaterly newsletter detailing the activities of its members worldwide as well as providing an update on EU and national environmental and packaging related legislation. The Alliance for Beverage Ca

present only one fraction can fraction sorting system is tons and the Environment, 16 ruc Joseph II, Box 2, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium - tel: 010322 219 0643, fax: 219 0223

**Banding machine keeps** up with cigarette speeds

to handle the potential differ-

ence in stack height, which can

be up to around 12mm. The

machine therefore measures

each stack to allow for these

Led by Alan French,

works manager at Jenton, the

team first considered using a

completely mechanical

machine and then a combina-

tion of electric actuators and

servo motors. These options

could not deliver the speed and

flexibility required at the right

price, however and so pneu-

matic technology from Festo

ous sizes of carton blanks are

In operation, stacks of vari-

height variations.

was chosen.

A banding machine which allows converters to supply cigarette cartons blanks to its customers in a way that matches the increasing speeds and automation of eigarette packing lines, has been developed by lenton International Ltd.

Called the CB600, the principles employed in the design of this bander means that it can also find applications in other areas, such as the folding carton market, or be converted to provide a full wrapround option.
The loading of cigarette

carton blanks has struggled to keep pace with the increasing automation of the rest of the line, says Jenton, and the increasing use of robotics by cigarette manufacturers has put more pressure on carton converters to help in this process.

Although the printing lines could produce the hinged lid carton blanks at high speeds, conventional band wrapping machines could not handle stacks of up to 600 blanks without damage, says Jenton (Pioneer House, St Mary Bourne, Andover, Hants - tel: 0264 738666, fax: 738552).

As well as overcoming these problems of banding stacks at speeds up to 25 a minute, the Various sizes of hinged carton blank can be handled on the CB600 transferred into the banding position by a pneumatically

operated pusher which adjusts automatically to the height of

the stack being banded. Each stack is sensed individually so that the machine can accept stacks of random heights providing the differential does not exceed 12mm.

Once accepted into the machine, a heat sealable, pe coated kraft paper is banded around the stack of carton blanks. The pe coating is on the outside allowing for heat sealing on the vertical face of the pack. After banding, the pack is transferred from the banding station by an intermittently driven conveyor belt.

As well as providing a pack that can be handled easily at the loading stations of cigarette packing lines, other benefits include a saving of banding material. Flexibility is also provided as sealing the band with heat rather than glue, allow the position of the seal to be changed if required. The only physical adjustment needed is when the size of a pack changes.

Acomir cliently entire continuous down the special property of the state of th

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## Working around

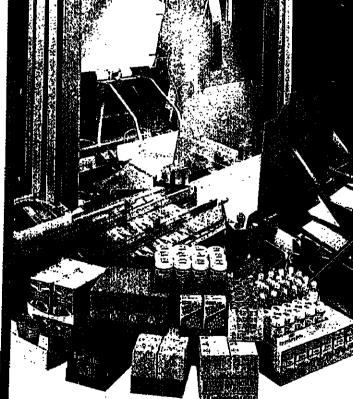


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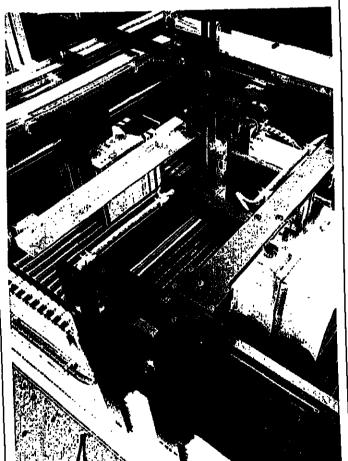
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The CB600 banding machine developed by Jenton International Ltd

### Twistwrap speciality

suitable for lozenge and tablet-

shape bunchwrapping. Packag-

ing News would like to

apologise for any confusion

that may have been caused.

ciality papers last month Packaging News would like to make it clear that Sappi Specialities (0865 516011) does not sell prewaxed or converted speciality papers, but manufacture twisting papers for the confectionery and otc healthcare markets which are then printed

and waxed by converters. Two twisting grades are

We call the system 'intelligent sensitivity control' or 'ISC' - and with it, our new range of Superscan Micro metal detectors represent the state-of-the-art in quality inspection. With false readings virtually eliminated, and initial calibration at the touch of a button, no metal detector available. A clay coated version called Unicote Twistwrap is used extensively for Pick and Mix toffee and sugar confectionery, while the uncoated Albus twistwrap, which can be flexo printed and waxed, is

by tracking the 'product effect'.

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ing lines manufactured by the

Japanese company. In addition,

Sumitomo will market Aero-

gen equipment direct to con-

James Howden & Company has

purchased the technology and a

number of the assets of Gestec

Industrial Ltd. A new division of

James Howden, Howden Pack-

aging Equipment (Scotland),

will transfer production of

Gestec's bottling line equip-

In Renfrew (041-886 6711).

ment from Stirling to premises

Cascades Djupafors Ltd has

been set up in cooperation

with Ekman Cleave Group

(081-668 4141) which will act

as the Swedish paper and board

mill, Cascades Djupafors AB's,

Alusuisse-Lonza Holding Ltd

announces that following the

acquisition of Lawson Mardon

now called Lawson Mardon

Packaging (0272 464200).

Group its packaging division is

Amalgamated Packaging, part

of the Remploy Packaging

Group, has recently signed a

second partnership sourcing

agreement worth in excess of

£700,000 a year with NSK-

RHP, the ball and roller bear-

The value of mergers, acquisi-

tions and flotation transac-

tions in the packaging sector

trobled in the year 1992/93,

according to a report by Price

(071-939 5653). The transactions were worth £1.5 billion

on 50 deals. In the previous

year, £577 million was raised.

For 1994 the number of buy-

total for the whole of 1993.

outs has already exceeded the

the UK agent for the Maier

range of winding systems for

blown film and the orbital

winder from converter M+M.

directors has decided to con-

centrate the production of cor-

rugated board in Germany and

Switzerland at only three sites.

This will result in production

sruhe and expanded at Hilden

and Basel. However, sales and

product development will con-

tinue at Karlsruhe.

being discontinued at Karl-

AssiDomān AB's board of

Waterhouse Corporate Finance

ing manufacturer.

UK agent.

verters in the Far East.

The British Printing Company Ltd (BPC) is delaying its flotation on the stock market due to market volatility and the gen-

eral downward movement in

the stock market since the

announcement, says the com-

pany. It is now unlikely that

BPĆ will seek a listing before

Prosvenor Venture Managers

imited has provided all of the

£2 million institutional equity

inance for the management

buy-out of Walsall-based Cas-

le Packaging Ltd from its par-

ent company. Castle is a

distributor/stockholder of

gummed paper tape, dis-

roducts.

tensers and ailled packaging

Norcros plc, the branded build-

ing materials and specialist print

and packaging group,

announced an increase of 7.4

per cent in sales to £378 million

for the year ended 31 March,

1994. Earnings per share (eps)

were 6.6p over a restated loss of

2.4p in 1993. Gearing was

reduced to 39.5 per cent from

94.8 per cent after £19.4 million

of property disposals and a

rights issues in June 1993. There

was also a substantial improve-

ment in profit before tax to

£17.1 million against a restated

continue to be the most signif-

leant part of John Waddington

pic, accounting for 66 per cent

of turnover and 67 per cent of

operating profit for the year

ended 2 April 1994. This divi-

22 per cent increase in sales

to £145.8 million with profit

growth of 13 per cent to £14.4

million. Waddingtons says it is

pleased to see a higher rate of

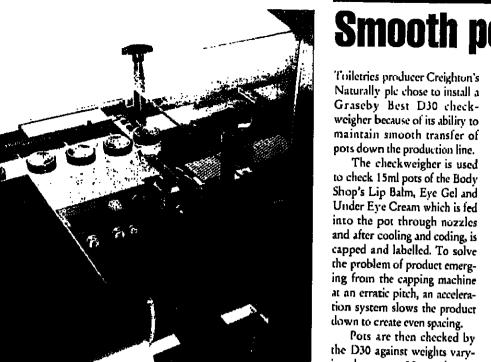
growth in packaging profits in

sion of Waddingtons reported a

profit of £2.6 million for 1993.

Core packaging operations

the end of the year.



HORIZONTAL CARTONING

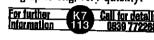
Trimcote Limited, Corringham Road Industrial Estate, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire DN21 1QB.

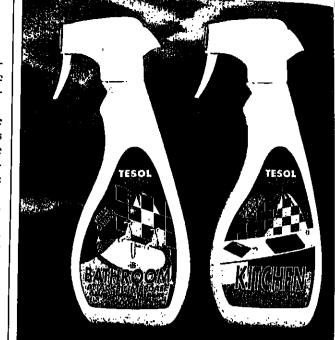
### Smooth pot moves

ing between 30g and 40g, according to the specific gravity of the product. Those meeting the standard move on to be shrinkwrapped, while underweight pots are rejected.

The line handles some 40.000 pots each day, says Graseby Best (Little Forge Road, Park Farm North, Redditch, Wores B98 7SF - tel: 0527 517283, fax: 517284).

"The D30 is extremely reliable," says Peter Young, quality assurance manager for Creighton. "Although most of the time it is handling these very small pots, we can, using the preprogrammed library pages in the D30's memory, prepare the line to hande packs weighing up to 1kg, very quickly."





### Snap on trigger for cleaner range

Techsol Ltd is the first UK user of Guala spa's standard trigger spray - adopted for the Tesol brand of bathroom and kitchen cleaning products which is currently on sale in most Safeway stores.

While the shroud remains the same, various inserts can be supplied to give differing per-

inserts can be supplied, one for viscous and one for milder cleaning products while the laest in the range, is a foamer for earpet cleaners. Another recent addition is a fine atomiser insert which is suitable for such products as air fresheners or

insecticides. Further information is division of Guala spa (Laysul, Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, Wilts SN 16 9BE - tel: 0666

The central office of SCA Packaging Ltd has moved from sales and marketing functions Packet Boat House, Cowley to

The new address is: SCA Packaging Ltd, New Hythe House, Aylesford, Kent ME20 7PB - tel: 0622 883285, fax: are also moving to Aylesford, and the Market Development Group can be contacted at: European Technical Centre, Aylestord, Kent ME20 7TW

PRINT YOUR OWN LABELS

Following a closing audit conducted by the Cardiff Institute of Higher Education and completion of a stringent upgrading programme, Field Packaging Newcastle has recently been accredited by the Royal Society of Health and registered under its hydiene scheme for the food

Under an agreement with Sumitomo Heavy Industries of Tokyo, flame plasma surface treatment systems from the Aerogen Company of Alton will be incorporated into plas-

Elf Atochem and Union Carbide plan to go into partnership in the speciality polyethylene's field, using technology known as the linear

process with particular emphasis in the wire and cable markets. It is projected that the 50/50 association will be finalised by the end of the year.

DNEODITE MANAGEMAND MEDICALIMAN SELECTION Plastohm uk

## AT LAST - A new high speed, versatile

The trigger spray is a snap on design, which led to bottle supplier, Scanbech Ltd (tel: 0928 56(747) changing the neck thread on its 500ml container. This standard trigger is just one of six in the Guala

available from the dispensing 824390, lax: 747184).

### Company sails to Aylesford

the SCA site in Aylesford, Kent.

the second half, an increase of 10 per cent over the first half. Brattle Adhesive Materials Ltd has been appointed sole distributor in the UK of Sealking's Polypeel resealable tel: 0662 883284, fax: 716308. adhesive tape (0525 382233).

> MY Holdings, the paper and plastic packaging group, has acquired the businesses and assets of Cleanprint and Jensa Packaging, suppliers to the healthcare sector at a cost of

> > Papeterie Ltd, the UK stationery products firm, has acquired the sole distribution rights in the UK to the HQ range of Thai paper and packaging products.

Filmflex Machinery Ltd (0226 6730123), has been appointed packaging industry.

tics extrusion coating/laminat-

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# PLASTICS SET A SIXTIES TRENN

Experiments with plastics - some of which survived, but many didn't - for packing all sorts of products led one enthusiast in 1964 to predict that by the 1990s nearly all food packaging would be in flexible films. Paul Gander finds out why.

ack in January 1964, the enterprising com-pany Maurice James was marketing coal in kraft sacks with an artistic logo spelling out "Trend". Some things are just difficult to predict.

There was more of a trend around with plastics, which were moving into new areas, some of which they stayed in and some, such as the cigarette cartons highlighted last month, they didn't.

Cheese went into pvc blister packs with lids of the same material replacing waxed paper cups with ps lids for Ilchester Cheese with Beer. PN identified this as a "trend setting use of plastics", though that particular flavour of cheese appears to have gone the same way as coal a long time before it.

Another plastics replacement for waxed board came in '65 with Ski Yogurt's move into churn-shaped ps pots. A combination injection and blow moulding process was used by the converter to achieve the same shape as the paperboard pack it replaced.

Lever Brothers launched Vim scouring powder in an hope bottle with pouring holes in the pe lid. It was the first scouring powder in plastics but, we were assured, Ajax was not far behind. The pack replaced the traditional metal-ended board canister. Although housewives were reported as preferring the plastics jar, the change involved a 2d increase in price, passed on to the consumer, for each pack.

But this growth in applications for plastics was leading some in the industry to rather oversimplified predictions in the longer term. Mr Selby of the British Food Manufacturing Industries Research Association prophesied that "within the next 26 years flexible film packaging will supersede all other forms of food packaging for retail purposes."

Among the product shown wrapped in film in the February '64 issue was Galbraith's Silver Strand tea, which used coated cellulose film and. in March, tobacco from the Imperial Tobacco Company finscaled in cellulose film laminated with aluminium foil. More complex laminates included an aluminium/ paper/ Pliofilm rubber

The one-trip glass bottle for soft drinks was on its way, with marketing trials running over the summer of '64 for Pepsi Cola and Rose sparkling

hydrochloride combination shown in the April

issue used in pouches for Bisk Slimasoups.

KELLOGGS

WITH ITS

FAMILIAR

COCKEREL

ABOVE:

SMITHS

ONE OF

THE MANY

PRODUCTS

PACKED IN

SNIPS WERE

l TS

lime supplied in elongated lightweight bottles. Other advances on the glass front included the use of square-shouldered bottles for Anderton's sherry, rum, whisky and port.

There were also, Mr Selby might have noticed, shifts from plastics films to glass - not always the opposite. Silvikrin's manufacturer Beecham carried out a customer survey which showed that customers preferred a glass minibottle to a sachet.

Even the most basic assumptions were being

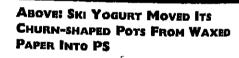
LEFT: Housewives WERE SAID To PREFER VIM IN A PLASTICS CONTAINER

questioned. Does whisky really need to be packed in a glass bottle? Not necessarily, decided Bardro, why not put it in a plastics aerosol? In this way Scotch Mist became "the first hard liquor in the world to be marketed in aerosol form". Maybe Bardro saw this, too, as the beginning of a trend. There were other interesting results from cus-

tomer research carried out in the US which showed that 40 per cent of respondents saw the ring pull on beverage cans as a disadvantage, 21 thought it was not an advantage and 39 per cent saw it as an advantage. Criticisms included the difficulty of removing the ring pull after levering it up and the unpleasantness or even danger of drinking out of it afterwards.

So-called "pull-tab" cans reached the UK in October '64, when consumers were able to try out the pack - used for Ind Coope's Long Life





beer - for themselves. An estimated three-quarters of all beer cans in the US already had ring pull tops. Called the Pop Top, the closure offered an "element of convenience that will be especially." acceptable at parties and picnies, and when sailing . or caravaning," said Ind Coope.

Paper and board were not lagging behind in innovation, with an easily erected carton which arranged eggs in a single line, offering good transit protection and visibility, wrote PN in February '64. The Boneg carton was printed, cut and creased on a Chambon machine (presumably an all-singing, all-dancing model) called the Rock 'p'

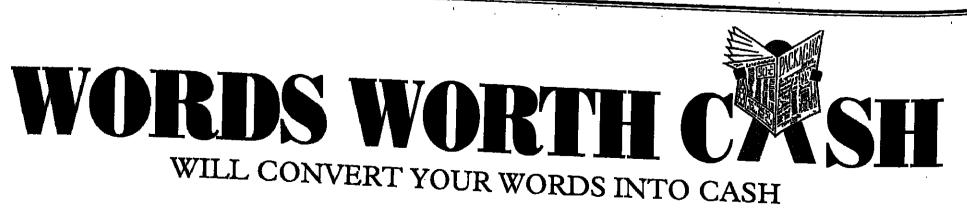
Cartoning was also developing new systems many of them coming out of the UK - with concepts, said PN, never before applied to the construction of cartons.

PACKAGING PICTURES KINDLY LOANED FROM THE ROBERT OPIE COLLECTION AT THE MUSEUM OF ADVERTISING AND PACKAGING, GLOUCS -

Tel: 0452 302309

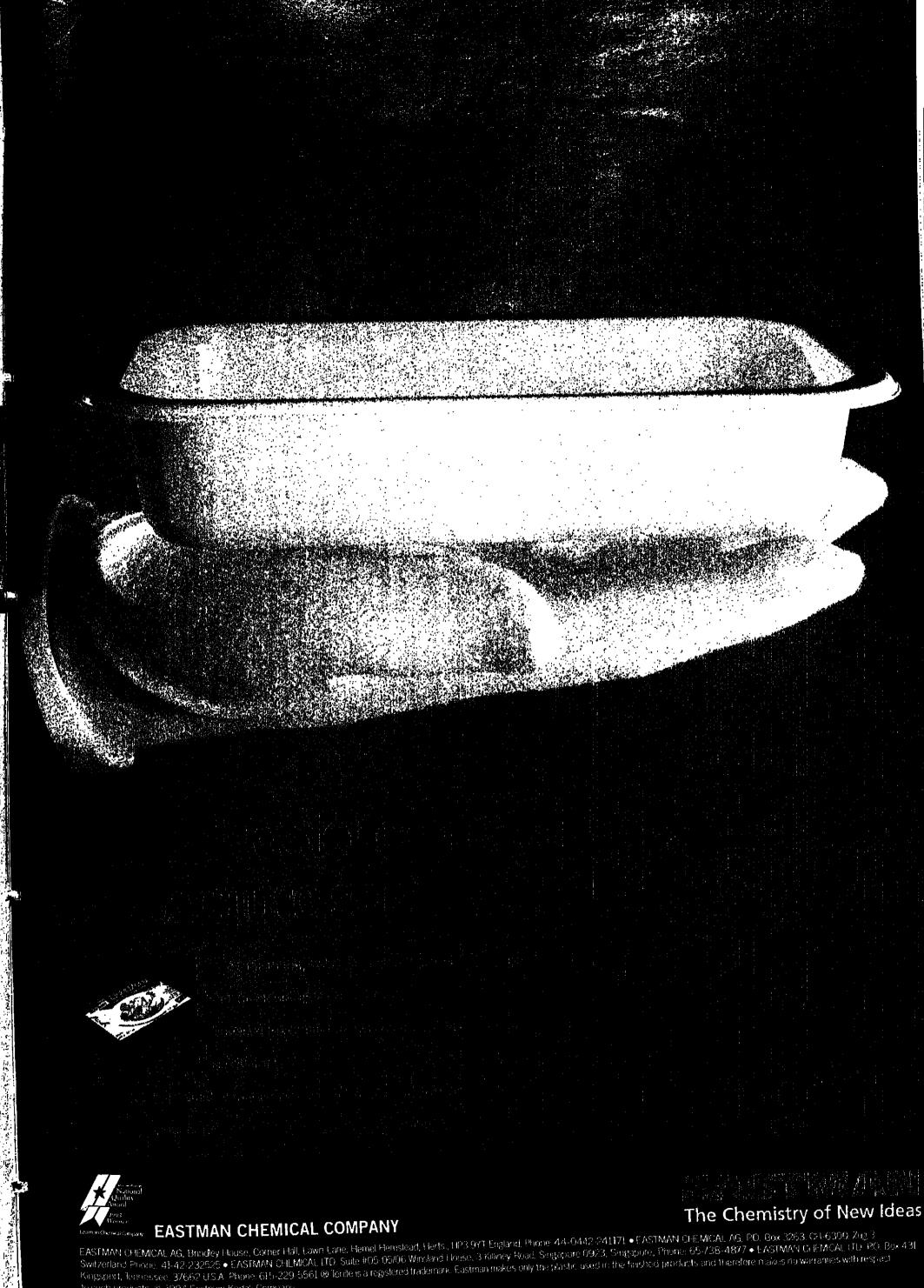
to such products, @ 1994 Eastman Kodak Company





Phone Jackie Skeel

081 242 3156



Three prototype versions of a child resistant closure, which is said to offer an easier version for consumers to open as well as providing tamper evidence, are now available from Just Once (Closures) Ltd.

Easy opening is offered due to the alternative method

of opening incorporated, says the company. Gone is the need to grip, push and turn, as a special key is used instead. This key is inserted into a receiving recess in the inner cap which allows the engaging threads to be turned without depressing the outer part of the closure. Samples of these proto-

types, which fit three neck finishes - 28mm R3, 28mm R6 and 24mm R3 - are available from the company (which is based at Harleem House, Ogilvie Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP12 3DS - tel: 0494 463111, fax: 461194).

Using different wads, the cap can be used for dispensing tablets and liquid mixtures as well as a range of household and garden products.

### **Brochure presents** sealing alternatives

Easy-open packaging from DuPont

Easy-Open Packaging from DuPont is a new brochure presenting the company's product range for the manufacture of packs which provide the right balance between proper sealing and a seal

that is de-

The DuPont easy-open brochure signed to be peeled off easily by

the consumer. According to DuPont, it has the most comprehensive offering of peelable scaling alternatives available. Polymer solutions which allow easy open formats to be adopted are available for all packaging designs, from portion packs to

Call on 0839 772268 A

micals, says ny (which can be contacted at Packaging & Industrial Polymers. Maylands Avenue, Hand Hempstead, Florts HP2 7DP tel: 0442

218541, fax:

249463). DuPont recently won the Packaging Innovator of the Year with Kramer & Grebe, for an easy open, multilayer pack for sliced food products such as meat and cheese. This pack also allows for reclosure after partial consumption of the contents.





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### **Screw improvements**

OPENABILITY NEWS

Elopak screw-cap cartons: easy to open, pour from and reseal

Improved opening, pouring, resealing and storage of liquids are said to be provided by a new generation of screw-cap cartons from Elopak Ltd.

Ideal for fruit juices, mineral water, soups, sauces, milk and drinking yoghures, the screw-cap cartons incorporate a specially designed device which highlights any evidence of tampering.

The screw-cap is very easy to open - especially useful for the very young and very old and its complete resealability eliminates leakage in the fridge, whether the carton is standing up or on is side, says the company (Rutherford Close, Meadway, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2PR - tcl: 0438 746746, fax: 741324). A range of standard family

sized cartons are offered by the

machinery and materials which are designed to make the opening of various packs much easier.

Following our report

symposium, Gall Lea

last month on the

IOP's Easy Open

highlights some

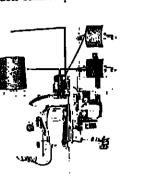
developments in

company - from 2 litres down to 250ml - and a new brochure is now available on the screw cap versions.



Tapes pull apart for easy opening bags

An easy open system for han-dled or plain sewn bags for products such as pet food, cat



The system and the Twotape

bein (Unit E4, Northway Gloucs GL20 8JH - tel: 0684

litter and charcoal, has been

developed by Fischbein. In operation, two strips of Twotape are sewn along the bag to form the closure. To open the bag, these tapes are simply pulled apart and the thread is removed to give a full opening. If a pour spout is required, this thread can be just partially opened.

"Heavy duty kraft paper

are both available from Fish-Trading Estate, Tewkesbury,



Twotape strips form the closure

298182, fax: 292678). The Twotage is a 10mm wide, heavy duty kraft paper and is available in a variety of colours to complement the artwork on the bag itself, according to the company. For further C7 Call for details



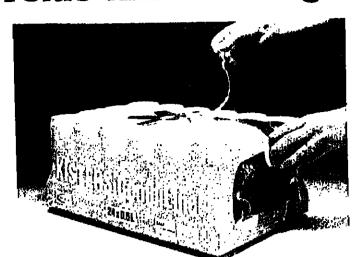
### Thread avoids knife damage

A simple method for opening shrinkwrapped packs for both the retailer and the consumer, has been developed by Kisters Ltd. A tear thread can now be

integrated into the shrinkfilm by means of a separate machine before the shrinkwrapping operation, which is said by the company to allow for quick and effortless opening.

This subsequent wrapping process can take place on a Kisters ShrinkPacker and the tear thread can be either transparent or coloured. This Easy-Open system has been designed for either transit packs or printed film multipacks. For example, on 24-can packs of lager cans or on 6 packs of 33cl beverage cans.

The system gets over



A tear thread is integrated into the film before shrinkwrapping

problems of using a knife to open packs which brings danger of cuts or of damaging the products, says the company (37 Walkers Road, North Moons Moat, Redditch, Wores B98 9HD - tel: 0527 595795, fax: 595727).

### Plastics gadget releases vacuum on glass jars holds. It works by releasing

What is described as a simple, yet revolutionary gadget for opening glass jars was handed out to all delegates at the IOP's Easy Open symposium.

Called Jarkey, the plastics gadget was designed and launched in Denmark last year, where sales have already exceeded one in five housethe vacuum which keeps jars sealed, and its effectiveness has been tested with cap manufacturer, CarnaudMetalbox Closures. Distributed by Sterling Marketing, Jarkeys are now available in selected supermarkets, says Carnaud-Metalbox Closures.

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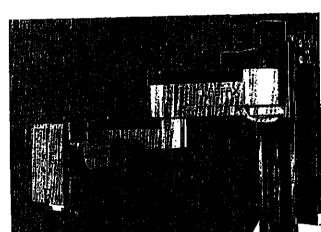
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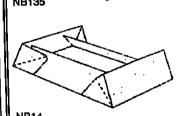
Labfax Systems Limited, Label House, Hortonwood 7, Telford TF1 4GP.

### **ERECTION PROBLEMS?**

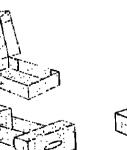
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Mould and Die nlernational exhibition, Hong Kong

Business and Industrial Trade Fairs. 18/F First Pacific Bank Center, 51 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong tel: +852 865 2633 20-23 July

International confectionery exhibition for finished products, processing and packaging machinery, Tokyo, Japan, Overseas Exhibition Services, 11 Manchester Square, London WIM 5AB -

tel: 071-486 1951 9-12 August Packaging and food processing

Exhibition, Jakarla, Indonesia. Top-Repute Co. 2102 Fo Ful Commercial Centre, 27 Hillier Street, Hong Kong tel: +852 851 8603 18-21 August

international packaging and food processing exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. ADG Exhibitions, 1 Woodside Road, Arnersham, Bucks HP6 6AA - tel:

30-3 August/September Trade fair for the printing industry. Leipzig, Germany, Inlech Overseas Fairs Ltd. P O Box 142, Rochester, Kent ME3

7NR - Iel. 0474 824092 31-3 August/September

international exhibition of food processing, packaging and handling machinery, equipment and technology, Manila, Philippines, Trade Information Marketing and Exhibitions, S-324 Secretarial Building, PICC, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. Manila, Philippines - lei: +632 832 0309 Packukralna '94

International trade exhibition, Klev. Messe- und Ausstellungsgesellschaft, Ost-Handel Consulting GmbH, GS1 Hamburg, Ulmenstrasso 10, D-22299 -1el: 010 49 040-48 75 90-91, fax: 010 49 040 48 75 99

コグラ

. 3

7-10 September Paverbox World

Folding carron and rigid box exhibition, Hew Orleans: National Blenheim Expositions, Fort Lee Executive Park One Executive Drive, FortiLee, New . Jersay 07024, USA - tel 010 1 800 829. 13-15 September

Labelexpo USA '94 Exhibition, Chicago, Labelex Exhibitions Ltd, 131 Southlands Road, Bromley, Kent BR2 90T - tel. 081-313 3535 15-20 September

Packaging trade fair, Beiling, NOWEA International, Ms Ute Windhausen Posifach 10 10 06, 40001 Düsseldorf tel: +49 211/4560-743

16-20 September Tokyo Pack Exhibition of packaging materials and machinery, lood processing machinery

and equipment, Tokyo, Japan Japan Packaging Institute, 7F Kashikichi Ningyo-cho Bldg, 3-10-1, Ningyo-cho Nihonbashi Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103, Japan · lel. +813 3 3249 6301 20 September

introduction to labels and labelling technology Two separate teach-ins, the Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky, Amslerdam Clare Brophy event coordinator, Co-wise Management and Training Services, 131 Southlands Road, Bromley, Kenl BR2 90T - lel: 081-

20-23 Septembe Convertex 94

Trade show dedicated to the paper. board, film, plastics and foil converting Industries, NEC, Birmingham, Jane Harris, Marketing Manager, Reed Exhibition Companies (UK), Oriel House, 26 The Quadrant, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1DL - tel: 081-948 9800

21-22 /September EASME 94 European adhesives and sealants manufacturing exhibition, Bordeaux France, Jane Malcolm-Coe, FMJ international Publications Ltd. Queensway House, 2 Queensway. Redhill, Surrey RH1 10S - tel: 0737

768611, fax: 761685 22-25 September Packaging Focus '94 Packaging exhibition and conference, on board P&O's Sea Princess, Richmond

DIARY Events, London House, 243-253 Lower Mortlake Road, Richmond TW9 2LS tel 081-332 2422

22-25 September Printpack 5/ProcessFood '94 Pan Arab printing and packaging exhibition, Cairo International Convention Center, Egypt. The Arab tel. 071-486 1951

10, Greece - tel: +30 901 0016

International plastics and rubber

1-5 October

Typopack

3-7 October

792 3525

4-5 October

Polypropylene '94

30 40, fax. 781 15 69

6-8 October

lei: 081-940 3777

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**Graphic Communications** 

11-13 October

10-13 October

Conference, Swissôtel, Zürlich,

Switzerland, Maack Business Services

Moosacherstrasse 14, 8804 Au/near

Zürlch. Switzerland - Iel. 010 41 1 781

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international exhibition for the food

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Jakarta, Indonesia. Reed Exhibitions -

International packaging exhibition. Tel

Aviv, Israel Israel Trade Fairs Center,

PO Box 21075, 61210 Tel Aviv. Israel -

Exhibilion/conference on creativity in

print and publishing, National Exhibition

Centre, Birmingham, Richard Leed, Reed

26 The Quadrant, Richmond, Surrey

International packaging and materials

handling trade exhibition, Budapest,

Hungary, Hungexpo Budapesi, PO Box

44, HO-1441 Budapest, Hungary - tel:

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Exhibition, Olympia. EMAP Trenton, 840

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Budatranspack

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11-16 October

Scanpack '94

Coveli - 0243 670754

Europlast 94

Communication Group - tel +20 2 348 22-25 September Thai PackPrint Packaging and grinting exhibition and

conference, Bangkok, Thailand, Reed Tradex Co Ltd - tel. 010 662 260 7103 8. fax: 260 7109 27-29 September PPMA Show

Machinery exhibition, NEC, Birmingham, PPMA LId, Progress House, 404 Brighton Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 6AN - lel: 081-681 8226 27-30 September

Materials, handling, storage and Exhibition, Oslo, Norway, Norges Varemesse, Boks 130 Skoyen, Oslo 0212/2, Norway - lel: +47 22439100 27-30 September

Packaging Exhibition, Novosibirsk. Siberia: Overseas Trade Show Agencies, 11 Manchester Square, London W1M 5AB - tel: 071-486 1951 28-30 September

**AFERA Congress** Congress of the European Self Adhesive Tape Manufacturers, Annecy, France. AFERA Secretarial, 60 rue Auber, F-94408 Vitry Sure Seine Cedex, France fax: 010 33 1 45 21 03 50

29-30 September 2nd International Transit Packaging conference and Conference and exhibition, Orlando.

Florida. Moira Erwin, Pira International tel: 0372 376161, lax: 0372 377526 29-1 September/October 1 FachPack 94 Trade exhibition for packaging, labelling and storage technology, Nuremberg.

Nürnberg Messe GmbH - tel: 010 49 0911/8606-0 29-1 September/October 4 Taropak

Packaging exhibition, Poznan, Poland. Overseas Trade Show Agencies, 11

Manchester Square, London W1M 5AB

Institute of Packaging (Services) - Jel-International graphic arts and packaging 11-15 October exhibition, Thessalonika, Greece, ICO Int.

Tsirimokoo, PO Box 19025, Athens 117 Trade lair for metal processing, Lelpzig, Germany, Intoch Overseas Falis Utd, P.O. Box 142. Rochester, Kent MF3 7NR - tel:

12-15 October exhibition, Paris-Nord Exhibition Centre **LPES - The National Print** Michèle Jackson or Catherine Chittock, **Production Event** Promosalons - tel: 071-221 3660, fax:

Exhibition, Olympia. Emap Trenton International Events Ltd, Beech House, 840 Brighton Road, Purloy, Surrey - tel-081-660 8008, fax. 081-660 6243 12-16 October PPP China

International Irade lair for packaging. printing and paper, Tianjin, China. Tianjin World Economy Trade and Exhibition Centre, 32 You Yi Road, Hext Districi, Tianjin 30061, China - tel: +86

14-19 October Interfood Shanghal international exhibition for food processing and packaging equipment, Shanghal, China. Shanghai International Trade Information, 817-837 Doug Da Ming Road, Shanghal, China - lel: 186 21 546 3810 19-20 October Pakex & Process Ireland

Exhibition, the National Exhibition

Centro - The Point Dublin, McCann McGuirk - tel: 010 353 1 532 497

24-26 October Speciality Plastics '94 Conference, Swissôtel, Zürich Switzerland Maack Business Services Moosacherstrasse 14, 8804 Au/near Zürich, Switzerland - tel: 010 41 1 781 30 40, fax: 781 15 69 24-28 October

Intornational exhibition of machinery and process lectinology for the food and bovorage industries, Paris, Franca - et (33 1 4268 0619

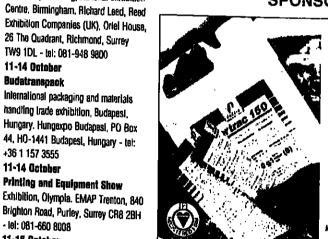
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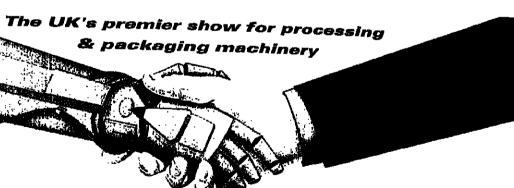
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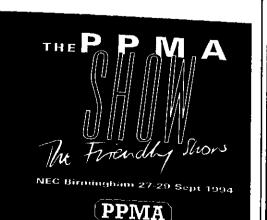
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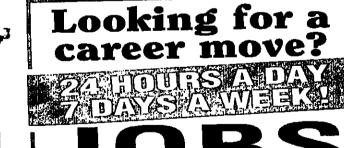
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Trigger-pump spray bottles by BP Chemicals: easily customised

Smaller plastics bottles

bottle neck line, the shield per-

mits inclusion of a moulded-in

customer logo at minimal cost,

says the company (Abbey

Meadows, Abbey Park Road

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According to BP, the

ergonomically designed bottles

are comfortable to hold and use

and the containers' generous

base dimensions give good sta-

bility. The bottles are designed

for effective and efficient man-

ufacturing and filling and the

pump assembly is fitted with an

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per caps can also be supplied.

Applications that are

envisaged for the new sizes

include pharmaceuticals, adhe-

sives, fine chemicals, cosmetics

ideal for promotional or trial

sizes in the cosmetics indus-

try, says the company (Pull-

man Road, Wigston, Leics

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and toiletries. They are also

531291, fax: 530388).

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Bottles and Closures, has just

A key feature of the 500ml

and 750ml bottles is a die-

moulded 'customer branding

shield.' Located just below the

Additions to Metric and

Jubilee ranges of plastics bot-

tles from Measom Freer (Sales)

Ltd are the smallest capacity

A 5ml and 10ml bottle are

now available in both ranges.

with the Metric bottles being

manufactured from clear pvc

and the Jubilice bottles blow-

moulded from natural hdpe.

All of these bottles take a

15mm R4 screw cap, and a range of neck plugs and drop-

the company has ever offered.

been launched.

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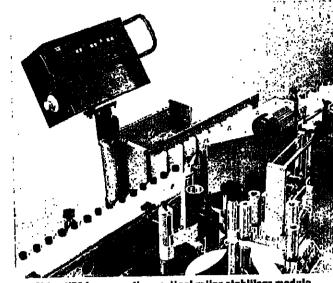
PACKAGING NEWS/JULY 1994

## Roller stabiliser on labeller

A wraparound labelling machine which incorporates a vertical roller stabiliser module designed for round and unstable product applications has been launched by Harland Machine Systems.

Called the Sirius VRS, the machine has been specifically designed for high tolerance wraparound applications where optimum labelling accuracy and maximum throughput are required, such as for the cosmetics, toiletries and pharnaceutical industries.

By combining a wide belt vraparound and three point contact between the two vertical rollers, positive vertical orientation of the product is achieved. This results in highly accurate label application, irrespective of the stability of the



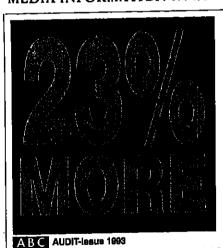
The Sirius VRS incorporating vertical roller stabiliser module

product, says the company (Hedgehog House, 2 Michigan Ave, Salford M5 2GY - tel: 061848 0622, fax: 061-872 1547). As well as being suitable for unstable containers, the Sirthe pharmaceutical industry as all proprietary security systems can be accepted.

"Advanced control system"

Label heads are stepper-motor driven by an advanced microprocessor control system enabling quick changeover times between a wide range of product sizes. Sizes range setween 40 x 15mm to 150 x 60mm which can be applied at speeds up to 300 a minute with a maximum line speed of 25m a minute, says the company.

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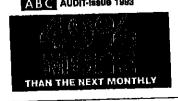
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ABC AUDIT-Issue 1993



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### **Belgium quibbles** over EU directive

The European Union's (EU) Packaging Directive grinds slowly on with adoption expected for the end of June or beginning of July. Further delay has been caused by Belgian intransigence, as the country struggles to overcome problems with the ambiguous wording of 'economic instruments' in Article 15.

At the Council of Ministers meeting in June, UK and Spanish opposition to the wording of Article 15 on economic instruments was swiftly resolved (see PN June).

In order to prevent the directive going to conciliation,

### Recycling logo on closures

A 'recyclable steel' logo has been included into the design of CPC's metal closures on its Real Mayonnaise and Light Mayonnaise products.

CPC is the first UK food manufacturer to incorporate the logo on closures supplied



which may result in MEPs reintroducing targets, it has been sent back to the Council of Permanent Representatives to iron out what is hoped is the last problem. Failure to resolve the Belgian position would result in the conciliation process, something the Ministers aim to avert at all costs.

by CarnaudMetalbox Closures Europe (Lake Road, Flamworthy, Poole, Dorset BH15 4L] tel:0202 674321, fax: 676963).

It aims to promote proactive consumer recycling of metal and other products. encouraging customers to deposit the caps in can banks.

CarnaudMetalbox Closures says it aims to encourage retailers to promote recycling by the use of point of sale material and persuade manufacturers to incorporate the logo on their caps.

#### Brussels sources indicated that once the Belgian opposition is overcome the directive can be adopted at any Council of Ministers' meeting with just a nod. There are a number of these scheduled throughout

June and July. Last minute negotiations are currently being held so that the directive can be approved before the end of the Greek

The Department of Environment along with trade associations tell PN that they want the directive to be adopted as quickly as possible.

However, some MEPs seem confident that there has been a shift at Council level with the Belgians prepared to side with the Germans and Danes. They have never accepted the directive as it stands (see PN January).

cal objective of bringing about The average cost to a four pera complete transformation in son German household may have been more than DM1300 trade and industry's attitude to (£540) in 1993 rising to DM1600 packaging waste management as packaging legislation is (£660) this year, as a result of the DSD, says Perchards consulspringing up all over Europe either inspired by the German tants. So far the promised savexample or as a defensive meaings have not materialised and levies from the DSD on fillers sure against it, David Perchard

and packers have escalated

benefits and drawbacks are

apparent from the German

The Ordinance has met the

German Government's politi-

Packaging Ordinance.

concludes the consultancy.

As Austria and France both cope with adapted versions of the German Duales System, Perchards has written a report on the situation to date in Germany and what

tells Packaging News.

German Ordinance: the cost

However, the German system collects much more material than the market can absorb, is far more expensive than it need be and is distorting competition and undermining the development of collection systems in other countries, says Perchards (Drover House, 16 Adelaide Street, St Albans AL3 5BH -

When the law was adopted, Germany was already recycling about 5 million tonnes of packaging each year and about

10 million tonnes were entering the waste stream.

Compliance with the collection and sorting targets would reduce waste to an annual 8.5 million tonnes in the first stage and to 5 million tonnes after mid 1995. Used packaging would then represent just 3 per cent of total waste arisings compared with 6 per cent in 1991.

There have been some winners. The Ordinance has created a series of managed markets dominated by particular companies. German papermakers have mproved their competitiveness and German beverage producers are also benefiting. Other groups, such as the stronger waste management companies have also done very well.

Perchards concludes that the main lessons from the German experience are that recycling should be part of a range of waste reduction measures,

regard for supply and demand OBS - tel: 0977 671111, fax: on a much broader scale. 670670) tells Packaging News.

waste at Allerton Bywater in

Only separating and wash-

ing facilities will remain at the

Bollington plant, where all

rigid plastics waste will be sent

for washing and separation

prior to reprocessing at Aller-

The combined capacity at

both plants is expected to be

around 4-5000 tonnes a year

roughly the size of the rigid

"Calling for

plastics recycling market.

West Yorkshire.

ton Bywater.

**Recycling plant** for post consumer plastics waste Linpac Plastics International

has opened a second recycling expect to make a profit by the second half of this year." plant for post consumer plastics However, Mr Davey calls for more support from industry and a real commitment to recycling right along the packaging chain.

At present, the recycled product is sold at a premium, but with increasing volumes Linpac expects this to disappear. "People seem to expect that there should be reprocessing plants all over the country yet we have done costings and it is more economic to transport all the waste to one plant."

Any further expansion will depend on the enforcement of environmental legislation and on the financial stability of the market. This may well not hold up

from Bollington.

Scrib, the Steel Can Recycling Information Bureau (071-379 1306), has joined forces with the Wombles to promote to the public the benefits of recycling steel cans

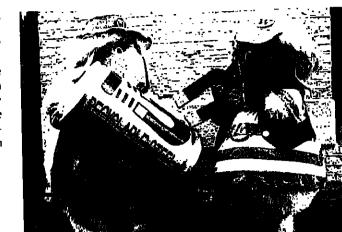
ENVIRONMENT NEWS

be touring the country during the summer and doing a specially choreographed dance called Do the Steel Can Crush.

They aim to promote British Steel's save a can scheme and the fact that by crushing the cans before putting them in the banks, people can help the system to run more smoothly.

Scrib and the Wombles will be touring the country during the summer and doing a specially choreographed dance called Do the Steel Can Crush

### Wombles promote steel can scheme



### **Bag-in-box aids chemical disposal**

designed for a West Midlands'

chemical manufacturer and

operates on two levels. The

chemicals are stored in a strong

inner bag with a dispenser

housed in a rigid heavy duty

They come in a variety of

sizes, 2x2 litre, 4x1 and 3x1

litres and are filled by the

chemical manufacturer. Also

under development is a larger

special returns box so that

once the chemicals have been

used, the inner bag is placed in

the returns box containing an

inner liner and the box can

recycled card outer box.

Swan Fields Packaging has introduced a packaging system to assist in the disposal of chemicals. It uses the bag-inbox system more commonly used for wine. Swan says the system will mean an end to major disposal headaches for chemicals users.

"There is a saving over other forms of packaging, and there is also the ability to release the chemicals through the tap and turn it off," John Smith, sales and marketing director at Swan's tells PN.

The packaging has been

In the case of Swan's customer, the return box is collected by the customer and disposed of safely. The chemical end user no longer has to worry about arranging disposal of the packaging.

Although a number of

companies recondition drums. more often plastic or steel drum containers when empty are crushed and landfilled and the onus is on the end user to dispose of the container.



Rototech which overcomes the zoblem of what to do with used polythene, paper and cardboard by compressing and bundling the material into bales of 600mm by 400mm. It imploys a screw-type press which guarantees winding and compression of the material. Any length or width of pe or cardboard material can be processed to produce a bale width of up to 390kg (0509

THE RING LEADER recycling scheme, for the collection and ecycling of Hi-Cone carrier plastic rings found on multipacks beverage cans, has been set up in the South West. The scheme, launched by ITW Hi-Cone in association with Safeway Stores pic and Dow Chemicai Company Ltd, is being promoted in the area with the assistance of county ouncils and local authorities.

THE ALUMINIUM CAN Recycling Association (ACRA) has mounced that 21 per cent of UK consumed aluminium cans were recycled in 1993, up on 16 per cent for 1992. It represents 1.158 billion aluminium ans recycled out of 5.5 billion sold in the UK, and resulted in an estimated 19,600 tonnes of used beverage cans being recycled into new drinks cans nd other products.

#### tel: 0727 843227, fax: 843 (93), with the proposed opening of but that companies should be Most of the problems stem Plysu's reprocessing facility later free to choose whey they put Although until now Linpac has from the fact that the German the emphasis. only been breaking even at in the year, explains Mr Davey. law is far too prescriptive. In Two extrusion lines have Since the secondary raw Bollington, the decision to addition, the law's refusal to materials market is an internabeen installed at the Allerton expand was one of economics allow incineration as a way of tional one, no single jurisdiction Bywater site. One at a cost of of scale, Alan Davey recycling disposing of surpluses which can or should control it, so the £250,000 and the other together projects manager at Linpac can not find an end use market with granulators, ballistic classipace at which collection schemes (Avon Business Park, Knottinhas created havoc. fication and drying equipment are developed should have a gley, West Yorkshire WSII



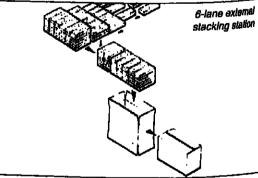
## FINAL PRODUCT HANDLING AND PACKING

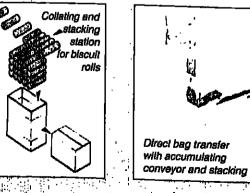
### Case Packer 490-Toploader

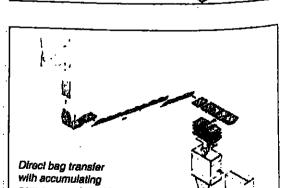
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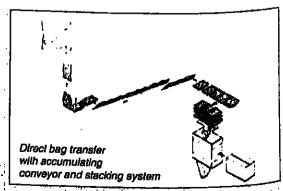


PACKAGING **EXAMPLES** 

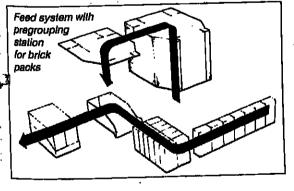


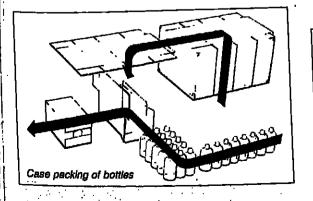




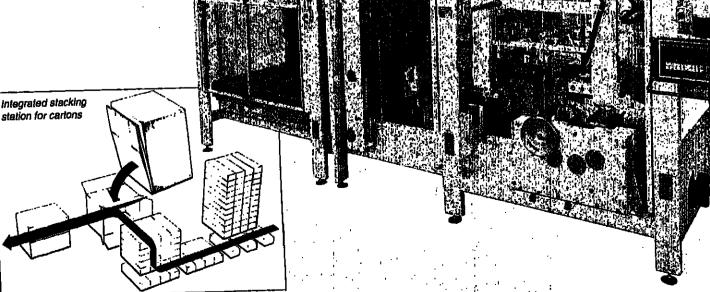








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Neil Robinson is now the managing director of United Packaging plc, the Yorkshirebased manufacturer of stretchwrap systems and films. Part of his role will be to guide the firm through the next stage of its expansion.

Peter Lewis is now tooling manager at Polbeth Packaging Ltd, thermoforming manufacturer for the food industry.

manager for its two corrugated and solidboard manufacturing operations in South Wales.

Heather Johnson has been

ment director at Decorative

Leeds-based Mitsubishi Litho-

graphic Presses UK Ltd has

made Yoshiki Kakuta manag-

Paul Bielby has joined Amal-

gamated Packaging as factory

promoted to market develop-

Sleeves Ltd.

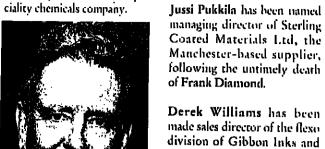
John Taylor has been made business development nunager of Digitee Design Ltd, the UK dar systems provider.

Neil Allan has been elected the latest chairman of the Institute of Packaging. Mr Allan runs the consultancy Pacrite First Time. Tony Lovell of Slade Packaging has been elected vice

Bryan Bentham has been appointed to the board of KBA (UK) Ltd. He will have responsibility for the Group's range of sheet fed presses.

Andrew Jenner has been made UK marketing manager for Venture Tape Corp, the US adhesives manufacturer.

Brian Durkin has been Walki Converters Ltd, the UK appointed managing director supplier of extrusion coated of Manders Oil Inks Ltd and and laminated boards, has Colin Ensor managing direcmade Tony Town its sales tor of Manders Liquids Ltd. manager board products. Manders ple is the ink and spe-Jussi Pukkila has been named



Loma, the UK manufacturer of in-line quality assurance systems, has made Paul Streatfield its group financial

Packaging Machinery Ltd. Pamela Mitchell has been appointed to the newly created position of export sales development manager at the Carrongrove Paperboard Mill, part of Inveresk plc.

Coatings and John Smith has

been made Colorcentre direc-

tor of the same Gibbon Inks

John Green is now the direc-

tor and general manager for the

Castle Division of the London

Fancy Box Company Ltd.

and Coatings division.

Nick Boyle is now the UK sales manager for the Westfield Mill, part of Inveresk.

Michael Bairstow, managing director of the Robert Horne Group, has been elected president of the National Association of Paper Merchants. He will succeed Peter Shrive, the managing director of R A Brand & Co Ltd.

Kevin Davison has joined Map 80 Systems Ltd as north ern area sales manager. In this position, Mr Davison will be responsible for sales of the computer labelling systems, barcode equipment and con-

David Hunter has now become the director of sales and marketing at ACI Rockware Plastics.

RPC Industries, the EB curing/treating technology firm, has made Malcolm Pat Gardner the manager of its customer and technical services operations.



branch manager for the Manchester sales and distribution centre of Abbots's Packaging Ltd, the UK stockist of packaging materials.

Brian Burgess is now warehouse and distribution manager at Jiffy Packaging Company Ltd, the UK manufacturer of protective packaging.

Britta Meltzer and Sally Mawer have joined the customer services team of Stora Billerud Newton Kyme Ltd. UK producer of barrier treated cartonboard for food packagingDrive, Rivermead, Swindon SN5 7UY - tel: 0793 616416, fax: 616219). "Assessed all competitive

vac House, Rivermead

Reclosable map for meats

"Having assessed all the competitive equipment, the attraction of the R530 for us was its ability to handle both reclosable and conventional packs with the minimum of changeover time," says Chris Just, who is the produc-

equipment"

tion director at Hygrade. "We are investing to meet the changing requirements of the retail market and the

that we plan to invest further." One of the two styles produced on the machine is an easy peel system, while the other is an easy peel with reclosable lid.

Operating at speeds of up to 96 packs a minute in multiples of 8, 24 and 40 slices, changeover from one pack style to the other takes on average 20 minutes.

Multivac has also supplied Hygrade with a hot foil printer to print variable information such as the price and best before dates onto the top web of each of the eight packs produced per cycle. A separate labeller applies

labels directly onto the formed, reclosable lids.

For further (77 Gall for detrils Information 102 0839 772268

Transfer de proprieta de la latera lillian for tell crops retained Mortal as (Utaliatoi): 40 (a), il 17 dillear Il iange (chaperoscalitataté héce vicillate) ti y chinister i i folosoffolio folio fetti i content by contention of states the cally listing this (Confilinging the posterior of the final factor

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### Haircare refills are designed for the environment

Hair care company Frenchtop Cosmetics Europe has launched 400ml refill cartons of its Hennaplus shampoos and conditioners across Europe, to meet consumer demands for 'environmentally responsible' packaging.

cooked meats processor to

offer its products to

consumers in a

modified

resulted

this format.

atmosphere 🐧

pack (map), a

move which has

increasing machine

time being devoted to

This pack,

Hygrade's more traditional

style of map presentation, are

both made on an R530 ther-

"A new refill generation"

"The new refills are part of our positioning of Hennaplus as a new generation of haircare products, which will offer product quality, value for money and represent an envi-

ronmentally responsible option," says Cees Jongens, md of Frenchtop Cosmeries Europe. "We expect other manufacturers will follow our lead," he added.

The refill cartons are Biopacks from Field Packaging (Station Road, Killingworth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE12 ORIH - tel: 091-216 0303, fax: 091-216 0917), which can also function as a primary pack.

A reclosable, tamper evident screw cap or a child resistant closure, can also be supplied, says the company.



### Powder order lapped up

An export order for milk powder filling equipment valued at £1 million has been won by GEI Filling Capping and Labelling from Borden in Denmark.

A 21-head Albro Omega OM21D vacuum assisted volumetric rotary filler is to be supplied, to replace an existing auger-based machine, together with an ultra-dense phase vacuum product conveying sys-

DACTO CONTROL BUTTON OF THE STATE OF THE STA

handling company represented in Europe by GEI (Henwood Estate, Hythe Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 8DS - tel: 0233 629161, fax: 639560).

The Omega filler is capable of speeds up to 300 a minute and will handle Borden's range of powdered milk products.

For further K7 Cail for details

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rial, which can be deep drawn

for vacuum or modified atmos-

phere packs, and so used with

fresh food products such as

meat, fish and cheese, will be on

the Åkerlund & Rausing stand.

al has taken two years to

develop and has had its first

application in the Swedish

market. The food company

Scan is using it for its range of

Called Ecoflex, the materi-

### Scanpack shows green bias

packaging trade fair, will take place later this year, at the Swedish Exhibition Centre in Gothenburg, 11-15 October.

So far, around 350 exhibitors have confirmed their participation and will

than 18,000sq m space. According to organiser Svenska Mässan, the international character of the fair is illustrated by the fact that

more than 34 per cent of exhibitors are from outside Sweden. Around 10 per cent will be from outside Scandi-

A one-day conference

corrugated board industry will take place the day before the show opens and it is hoped that a Swedish Minister will present the latest news on the Ecocycle legislation (see Packaging News - June 94).

Welcome to

Taking place during the five

day show will be the presenta-

tion of the Scanstar competi-

tion winners, the Scandinavian

equivalent of our Starpack

Awards (see page 28). The win-

According to the organiser, many developments at the show will reflect the increasing pressures on the entire European packaging industry to reduce waste and accept the producer responsiblity prin-

ciple. Here, we highlight just some of the many products that will be on

11-15 October 1994 information, contact the organiser, Svenska Mässan (The Swedish Exhibition & Congress Centre, Box 5222, 402 24 Gothenburg, Sweden - tel: + 031 109 100, fax: 031 160 330).

> cold meat products. According to A&R, the transparent material has excellent barrier properties as evolu is used as the barrier laver.

#### Less strain

The material combination with pp as the base polymer is part of our drive to use components that put as little strain as possible on the environment," says Christina Olsson, product manager at Å&R (Box 22, S221 00 Lund, Sweden - tel: + 46 46 18 34 30). "Our new concept vill be marketed in four different combinations in varying thicknesses of 100-250 microns.

"Ecoflex copes with deep drawing under the same conditions as traditional pa/pe materials," she continues, "which means the forming characteristics are very good.

look and dead-fold qualities of "Apart from its unique paper combined with the functions, we have also sucstrength of plastics. ceeded in obtaining a material This, according to the comthat is cost effective for both us pany (tel: +75 57 24 22), makes and for our customers," she the material ideal for a wide range of applications where a

During the show, Schur Plastic paper-look is an advantage, but a/s will highlight its latest where paper would not meet development - Schur PolyPathe physical properties per - as well as demonstrate the required. For example, in a improvements made to the damp environment. SchurUp bag. A combination of materials

and a special production

process has been employed for

the pe-based PolyPaper, which

are said to provide the texture.

Improved stability has now been achieved in the latest SchurUp bag option with the first user being AXA of Denmark, which switched from a form, fill seal solution. AXA's Swedish parent company has also adopted this bag, but in this case, by replacing a bag in box option. The SchurUp bag runs on the Joker packing system which is available from Schur Engineering a/s.

### Automatic adjustment features included on the machinery allow the user to change over the use of computer graphics

to a new product quickly and means pattern programming of any new products can be carried out quickly The company also says that

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### SCANPACK PREVIEW Eps on show | Sacks and films for retail

Plastics or multilayer sacks

can be supplied in either open

mouth or valve versions, and

printed in up to six colours.

The shopping bag range

includes both paper and plas-

A large range of expanded polystyrene packaging is available from Norwegian manufacturer, Jackon as, much of which will be on display.

Moulded-formed and custom-cut eps packs can be produced, says the company (Postboks 44, Sorkilen 3, N-1620 Gressvik, Norway - tel: +47 69328155, fax: +47 69328749). For customers in Scandinavia, the company takes back used eps.

Eps waste is collected and returned, and then melted down to regranulate. A large percentage of the resulting material is then mixed with virgin granulate and used in the manufacture of the company's extruded insulation boards.

well as packaging films, will be displayed by Finnish company

Packaging films from the company include shrink, laminates and multilayer products which are all custom made to meet various specific packaging requirements. Anti-lamination shrink films are also produced at the Finnish plant via a special coextrusion process.

These films compete well in terms of shrink capabilities with standard films, but unlike traditional materials, do not adhere to underlying pe products, says the company (Ulasoori, PO Box 22, SF-28601, Pori, Finland - tel: +358 39823222, fax: +358 3941 2059).

The corrugated board tray from Förenade Well is used by many

### **Quality grade board tray**

A corrugated board tray, manufactured from a special quality grade that allows for what is described as exceptional decorative printing, will be on show from Förenade Well, part of the AssiDomän forestry group.

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The tray has been developed for farmed vegetables and are said to offer benefits in all areas, from harvesting to distribution. It is designed for mechanical folding, says the company (+46 413 680 00).

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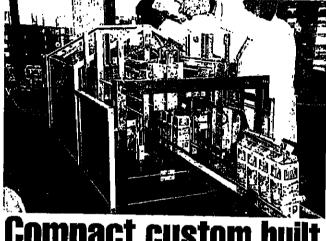
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### **Compact custom built** milk carton packer

Norwegian company Nor-Reg will be demonstrating its capabilities in the custom built machinery area at the show, with one of the latest examples being a multipack machine for milk cartons. The multipack concept uses a minimum amount of material and the compact machine to apply this can be fitted onto existing production lines. It can be adjusted to run quarter, half and one litre milk cartons.

### Ultra thin papers and laminates will suit industrial applications

Ultra thin food packaging papers, extrusion coated papers and laminates will be on show on Finnish paper makers stand, Lohjan Paperi Oy.

As well as manufacturing lightweight papers for food and other consumer goods, the company also makes papers for industrial applications such as interleaving for the steel industry. Even very thin papers can be given the necessary strength by using chemical pulp made from softwood as a raw material, says the company (08100

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range or abbuenting where a count refluence. Lohia, Finland - tel: + 358 1224201, fax: + 358 1224253).

Lohjan's main raw materi al is chemical pulp bleached without elemental chloring but totally chlorine-free papers are also part of the mill's product range. For paper coating, the company uses mainly pe and pp.

For further K7 Call for dial

The use of softwood chemical pulp by Lohjan Paperi ensures adequate strength, even with such very thin papers

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# Paper bag lookalike

### **Palletising to meet** needs of the future

A palletising system that is said to be designed to meet the needs of the future when the significance of efficiency and flexibility increase, will be demonstrated by Orfer Oy.

Called MPPS, or the modular pallet packing system, the equipment is all based around the frame used on the company's multi-purpose palletiser. The auxiliary devices required for specific packaging modes are chosen from modules which can be installed directly onto this basic machine framework.

According to the company (Vnakatie 9, Fin-16300, Orimattila, Finland - tel: +358 18 777 5800, fax: +358 18 777 2472), the machine enables the

user to handle different types of product on just one palletiser, as each new part can be easily added to the system.

bulk containers, plastics and

paper bags for retail use, as

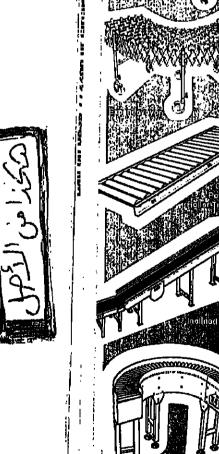
## **Automatic adjustment**

the modular construction and the technical solutions outlined, permit any layout changes to be made at low cost.



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PACKAGING NEWS/JULY 1994





ersatility in Conveyor OWENS CONVEYOR CO /ALSALL WD9 9AS (0543) |377373 (0543)/370134

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combine production, sales and service with the activities of their subsidiary TAVAK.

The new single site will The move avoids the limitations of operating a factory in the centre of specialist converting London where this long established company has been based for many years.



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AT BISLEY SURREY.

MY Trondex took gold in the consumer and the transit sections with its pack for a BT video telephone

## Flexible protection at half the former size

Multiple role and reduced volume were the attributes rewarded in the single gold Starpack award this year from the Institute of Packaging. MY Trondex (0604

752355) took the gold in both the consumer and transit sections of the competition with its pack designed for a British Telecom video telephone. Perfeet protection was only half of the pack's appeal, according to chairman of the transit section judging panel Dennis Goodyear. "It is also half the size of the pack it replaced and extremely attractive at point of sale," he adds.

On a single pallet load, 72 of the packs can now be stacked instead of 25 as before. The materials chosen - eps, films and corrugated - will also withstand vibration and other features of normal transit and handling. The single piece litho laminated case is designed to contain 13 components.

"The standard of award entries has been noticeably higher this year, particularly in rechnical innovation," comments David Qua of Mars, chairman of the consumer panel of judges. Apart from the one gold, there were 23 silver, 35 bronze and six technical innovation awards out of a total of 199 entries.

design were recognised in the citation for Continental Pet UK's blowmoulded bottle with integral handle for Kia Ora. It is the first UK application of the technology which places a handle, which can match the cap, in the mould by means of robot before the bottle is blown.

Production from pet granule to finished container takes place in a single machine. The pet bottle also von a technical innovation award for the company (0536 401424).

The same combination of silver and technical innovation awards went

Alwayse on the ball.

to CarnaudMetalbox Foodcan (0905 762323) for its now well known Quantum Can, in a design for JA Sharwood. The lightweight can is litho printed and offers optimum shelf impact, say the judges, as well as minimising use of energy and metal. Easy opening is assured with the addition of the Eole full aperture can end.

innovative pouch and beer bottle combination by LPF Verpakkingen major advantage of being able to run on existing blister packing equipment.

in demand in other European

countries, are represented

among award winning packs.

As an alternative to blister

packs for Peri-Dent dental

836722) produced a five colour

one-piece board pack. A per-

foration allows for easy open

ing of the pack which has the

sticks, BPC Whitefriars (0892)

Another board winner of a silver award on the consumer side was Presentation Products (0241 878441), with its Alloway Legend whisky gift carton. Resembling an old book, the pack imitates a book Single material solutions, hingeing and does not use conwith its metal and paper

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Easy open features wen

key to RPC Containers (025)

682298) winning a silver award

with its "snacking on the

move" pet pots for the Ki

Foods Group. The judge

made particular mention of the

peelable induction seal and

small deut which allows eas

prising off of the lid. A shirt

sleeve gives especially high

573501) produced an Easterer

pack for Cadbury Ltd while

won a silver award. It includes

clamtype of vacuum forming

with a retaining board lid

Rigidity in the pack, deriving

from its pre-erection and lod-

together format, was particula-

ly admired by the judging pand

STD (Society of Typograph,

Designers) awards, as well as

bronze, went to LPF Vtt-

pakkingen of the Netherland

(010 31 581 32121) for a pouch

and beer bottle combination

Produced for Bass Brewers, the

pack uses a metallised polyeter

pouch which encloses the bonk

but can be easily opened to leave

innovation award involving eay

opening on flexible packaging for

Sidlaw Packaging Colodense

(0272 753200). The company

applied the Fancy Cut proces during the conversion of laminare

for KP Foods bags, also winning

a bronze award for the result No

tear tapes are necessary, and the

feature is sea

to meet a dear

consumer need.

flexo preprint-

ing on a David

S Smith Conv-

gated Launces

ton muhipad

for Safeway

won the com-

pany the EFTA

special award

An inner fit

ment allows for

bottles of dif-

fering height

to be carried

together, says

the company (0566 772303).

For metal packaging the Glenmorangie decorated tube

won l'eter Windett & Associ-

ates (071-221 0301) the MPMA

special award. The precise reg-

ister was described as a

tremendous technical achieve-

ment. ManuPlastics (081-542

3421) won the IOM special

Six colour

There was another technical

a label and clear glass bottle.

Technical innovation and

Field Packaging (0274

quality graphics and gloss.

care's Sweetex. In the consumer family section, stand up pouches from Lawson Mardon Flexible (0761 418761) have been used for chilled foods by Geest Prepared Foods, and won a silver award, a BPF special award and BPIF special award. Printed in seven colours eravure, the pack is said to give outstanding shelf impact.

went to Tayburn Design Ltd (031-662 0662) for Simmers, with an identity sus- Silver awards for David S Smith Packaging: Arlines Countryside Collection pack, 9 x 1 litre tained across an octag- Drinkmaster concentrate transit pack and Marchant Manufacturing greaseproof paper pack onal carton, a tin box, a rectangular carton and composite tube. Colour consistency was sustained across the different printing processes used on the various packs.

Another silver

Boots Perfor mance range of toiletries for men won not only a silver award but also the Cosmetics World News award. (081-744 2100) was responsible for the range, which encompasses nerosols, tubes and plastics bottles. Offset and screen

Among the silver awards for transit packaging was a David S Smith Tri-Wall Europe (0600 772222) case for a tractor windscreen which locks the product into position. A second win for David S Smith Corrugated Launceston involved a single wall B flute

Lippa Pearce Design Continental Pet UK's blowmoulded bottle with integral handle produced for Kia Gra: the printing were used.

Another Lawson Mardon Flexible win for technical innovation - was for Colman's sauces, complete with easy open tearing. This does not damage the material's barrier or shelf life.

handle, which can match the cap, is placed in the mould before the bottle is blown



pack to hold fragile The Boots Performance range of tolletries for men, designed by Lippa Pearce, won both a bottles of soft drink silver award and the Cosmetics World News award; Offset and screen printing were used

HE TOOTHBRUSHCASE THE SOAP BAR! THE AUDIO CASSETTE

THE WRAPPING

MACHINE The wear-long experience of

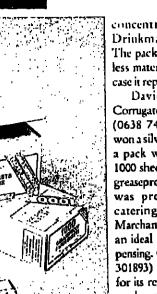
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Bowater Containers (Heavy Duty) Hinckley (0455 251400) developed a pack for the Rover K series engine, which is cradle-shaped and so allows for rocking forward and easy unloading. This is also said to be the first time that an engine has been transported in anything but the verti-

> for SCA Packaging in the transit section were an E-flute carton for a children's clock, produced at the Lydbrook plant (0635 864664) for Jaspa Products, and a pack to protect car bonners in transit. This was returned product.

A ten-litre hdpe Linkpak container from Plysu Contain ers Ltd (0908 582311) s designed to keep chemicals away from the operator in a closed system. It was supplied to CIBA Agriculture. Other silver award winners include an L-shaped container for children's car seats from Linpac Corrugated Devizes (0380 729406).

THE WRAPPING

Solles U.K. Ltd. Urd. 12 ardglar. Irokotslas Estate Whitehardt, 5622 788 Hampihare United Kingdom

MACHINE

psollas

concentrate for Drinkmaster Ltd. The pack uses much less material than the case it replaces.

David S Smith Corrugated (Burwell) (0638 741441) also won a silver award for a pack which holds 1000 sheets of folded greaseproof paper. It was produced for catering supplier Marchant and makes an ideal unit for dispensing. Correx (0452 301893) took a silver for its reusable transit packs supplied to Birkby's Plastics for automotive parts.

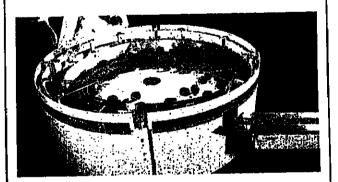
cal position.

Among the wins supplied by the Langar plant (0949 61331) or VAG UK, and has led to a halving of both damaged and

HUGO -Whiteworld is conditionally and beauty collegeners the testable stelling क्षेत्रवाद्यावृक्षित्रवाद्या विश्वविक्रवात्रावात्रेवार्वेषात्त्रव्यः, विविधिविद्यः, iotifics:) in columnitions (Allulia idea) participated distribution in careful in the capacity of the control of the control of the capacity of the capac

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chocolate bars and sausages to frozen sachets industrial



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## Added value enticements in palletisation

Palletising is a market where there seems no limit to demand with increasing line automation an ongoing feature throughout the industry - but equally, no shortage of possi-

There is now so much choice for any potential buyer, with small and large high speed conventional systems and robot units to choose between, that the suppliers are doing all they can to adapt their product to specific market or indeed customer needs.

Many systems now offer 'added value' features such as integrated pallet wrapping, or other techniques for pallet sta-

One such machine is the Apollo CK750 palletiser, now strapping around each layer and so secure the entire load. The strap is applied as the leading row of each layer is pushed through from the infeed onto the stripper plate.

As the layer is formed, the strapping loops around it and is finally secured and tensioned when it is complete. The ple can be programmed to strap all layers or selected layers. The system reduces the risk of load collapse between palletisation and stretch/shrink wrapping. Sole agent for Apollo in the UK is Ancholme Machinery (0652 657521).

An example of dual role machinery is Maxim's Combi-Wrap palletiser, which saves space loading and wrapping

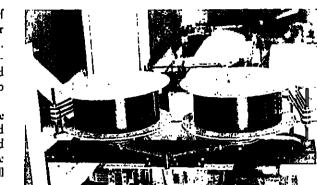
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display pallets in a single module (see PN February '94), available through Mancon UK

the completely customised approach, and end users may

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environments, with all components designed

OCME is now recognised as a leading

manufacturer of single machines and

complete systems which include

depalletisers, volumetric fillers, weight

fillers, wrap-around packers, tray packers,

shrinkwrappers, palletising systems and

conveyor systems for small packs and

With projects becoming

ever more specialised, we

design all our machines in

such a way that technically

they meet the required

specifications and more

pallets in a number of industries.

importantly we guarantee the results.

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Productivity is high on the agenda; all

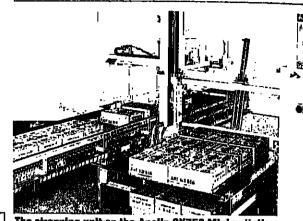
OCME machines are designed with fault

diagnostics, easy to operate controls and easy

because of the peculiarities of line or product (see page 33).

Where managers are in a hurry to install equipment, custom building is often not an option. The compromise is DEPALLETISERS, VOLUMETRIC FILLERS, WEIGHT FILLERS, WRAP-AROUND PACKERS, TRAY PACKERS, SHRINKWRAPPERS

Bridging the gap between the packing line and goods in transit, we build up a picture of palletising, robot case and traypacking. retaller demands for milk in polybottles and a mixed load of end of line news.



can get closer than standard-

needs, without requiring the purchase of new infeeds or other expense and avoiding ong lead times.

Equipment such as Meco Iwema's modular PL5 can be supplied in semi or fully autonatic format, with high or low infeed. Automatic size change is an option, says the company (0933 274141).

Both Ocme UK and FTH Foerdertechnik UK report rising demand among customers for turnkey installations, Palletising is increasingly just one end of line function which must be integrated with all others, says FTII, without the end user having to coordinate equipment sourcing.

Ocme's end of line offer includes case and pallet handling conveyors. High level infeed palletisers from the company (0635 298171) can have single, double, triple and even quadruple lane infeeds. Speeds can top 120 packs a minute.

There is a distinct gap oetween end of line equipment in the UK and, for example, Germany. FTH, which is introducing a high speed sack palletiser to the UK market (see page 2), reports that in the flour industry, potential machine buyers from Britain are still being shown 12-yearold installations in Germany.

### \*Differences understood"

There are obvious reasons for this on the supply side, with individual plants serving larger markets, and so justifying such automation. But companies which know the continental as well as British markets, even taking into account these differences, note greater resistance to mechanisation as an alternative to manual lifting in the UK.

Average size of lines and simple cost considerations explain a great deal. "But robotics have opened the whole thing up at a fraction of the cost," says Bob Pollard, sales manager at FTH. "Conventional palletisers have by

Among the many example robot palletising now available in the UK are Concetti (GB) (0602 336422), with equipment for palletising sacks with or without overlap - or using a combination of the two. This sort of programmability marks out robot pallets ing from its conventional counterpart. Of course, what users gain in flexibility, they lose in speed.

### "Successful installations'

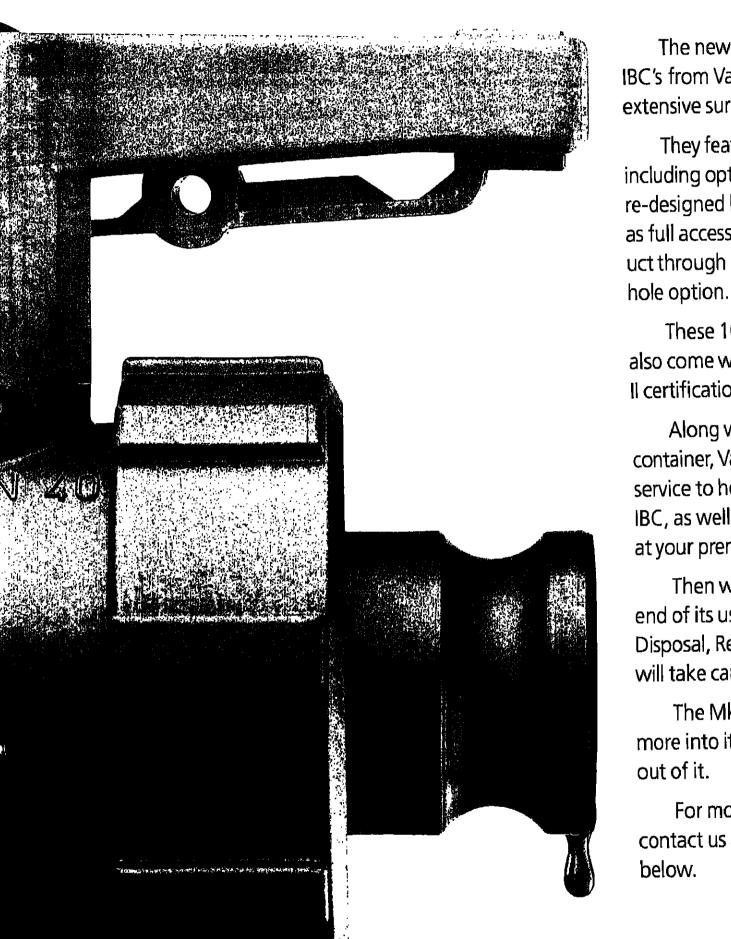
Amtrac Turkington (0282 415174) has made several soccessful installations involving the Italian Costi robot palletis er. ABB Robotics has the IRB 6400 designed for marerials handling, palletising and depalletising. It has a reach of 2.8m or 3m and lifting capacity up to 150kg, says ABB (0908 695595). According to Dan Con-

veyor, it is becoming increas ingly difficult to find people in "northern countries" willing to carry out manual palletising. I is not clear whether they include Britain in this category. The company also highlight the risks of inaccurate pallet ing when it is done by hand.

Dan Conveyor demonstrates that flexibility is not confined to robot systems. An installation of Dan Conveyor (0502 586614) equip Svea-Choklad ab in Sweden handles a variety of confectionery goods packed in cartons. There are 27 possible sorting and palletising programmes taking 36 packs a minute, and forming single product and mixed pallet loads

Refinements to plc control on conventional palletisers include a facility for on-screen adjustments to preset pallet patterns on the PAHM 1012 labelling palletiser from Figgie Material Handling Products (UK) Ltd (0204 705786). Bar graph functions display the percentage of each pattern used. Cases, trays and other containers up to 250kg can be individually labelled and stacked on the machine.

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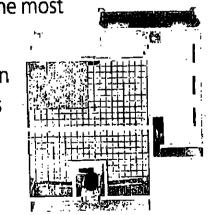
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in a demanding marketplace. Manufacturers and supplible suppliers. ers of robot pick and place sys-There is n tems feel that the increasing choice for any p availabillity of their systems, with small and  $\mathbf{k}$ growing acceptance of their conventional principles and establishment of robot units to e that the supplie they can to adato specific ma customer needs. Many syst 'added value'

sort of flexibility they need. THE LARGEST RANGE OF AUTOMATIC WRAPPI

credentials is being concentrated by marketing pressures, and together persuading more companies that this is just the

other techniqu bilisation. One such Apollo CK75

integrated pall

DEPALLET

Robots offer vital flexibility When packs change, ranges are added to, refills require han-Up to three filling

machines, for example, for liquid carrons, can be linked to a single casepacking robot by separate infeed conveyors. The flexibility of such a system means that single-product cases, or collations combining two or three product variants are all possible. This sort of 'mixed bag', increasingly demanded by retail outlets, is only feasible with a robot as opposed to a wraparound sys-

tem, says Dick South of Cermex UK (0480 455919). The French parent company has installed a robot pick and place for Reckitt and Coleman, France, which not only packs notoriously diffi-

HORIZONTAL WRAPPING MACHINE

TYPE AUTOPAC 550/650

cult trigger sprays into cases, but will also switch over to provide the most flexible trigger-less refills.

Robots can switch from row by row collations to layer by layer, or from placing tubes, say, on end in a point of sale tray to laying them on their side. There is also a degree of longterm as well as short-term production flexibility in robots which is said to set these systems apart from others. Companies may know what they will be packing only for the next couple of years while wanting

to invest for the next five. When there can be no secure knowledge of what primary packs will be handled, or what the market demands for

AUTOMATIC PACKING MACHINES

TYPE FUTURA 2 - 45/50

AUTOMATIC LINES with cardboard

TYPE SC700 - R 700/F

option. It may mean investment in new tooling rather than in a complete new

### "Singles out toiletries"

Dave Morris of System Packaging (0924 364844), agents for German robot manufacturer Schubert, singles out the toiletries sector as one where the demands of marketing departments are driving investment in this sort of system. The design of a shampoo bottle may change

after only 12 months on the market, and the packing sys-

filling speeds increase and fac-

tories gear up for longer shifts,

he notes, more companies are

disposed to invest in down-

are the only viable solution.

Flow wrapped confectionery,

for example, coming off the

line at up to 600 a minute, can

For some products, robots

stream automation.

build up of product.

force under the Manual

Handling regulations (see PN

July '93), many of the smaller

companies with less capital to

invest have begun to respond

positively, and shown how the

company - and not just indi-

now the perception that careful

investment - in training as much

as in equipment - pays off. The

regulations coming into force

when they did a year and a half

ago certainly helped focus

attention on this whole area.

But there is as much of the car-

rot as the stick about an issue

which starts from the premise

that three million working days

are lost a year, according to one

estimate last year, through man-

ual handling injuries.

Most importantly, there is

vidual workers - can benefit.

tem for transit must be able to cope with that. line speed and, perhaps, lim Unfamiliarity with this space. But where either ro kind of equipment still means could be followed, compar that many companies are wary of taking that first step into are increasingly ready to o sider robots, reports Mr Sot robot systems. "People move slowly into robotics, but those "Maximum who have used them in the past then tend to come back to investment' us again," says Mr Morris. As

A shift of attitude on

work-related injuries

Cermex in particular sees growing use of robot casetraypacking as being driven the larger multinational connies, especially where produ tion is being concentrated single plants serving nation or international markets, a so involving maximum invi ment and automation.

only be coped with by using a Like System Packaging robot pick and place with witnessing a broadening 'racetrack' conveyor to allow the technology's acceptabile and application, not only Conversely, for some lines toiletries, but also from confe conventional casepacking is tionery to cakes and biscuits

clearly more suitable who there is a standard produ such as bottled drinks, h

### **INVESTMENT KEY TO CONTINUED SUCCESS**

RPC Group Pic announced its first full year's results as a public company at the beginning of June. Sales turnover increased by £4.3 million while operating profits moved up by 13% to 67.85 million.

"Our achievements are well in line with our predictions at the time of flotation last summer," comments RPC Chief Executive Ron Marsh. "This is particularly satisfying given the general recession and the tough trading conditions which all businesses have had to contend with over the past year."

Once again RPC's multi-site operation, with individual sites specialising in particular materials, manufacturing processes and markets. has been fundamental to the group's continuing success. "The broad spectrum of markets and customers we serve has insulated us from dramatic swings in any one sector of application," explains Ron Marsh. "Competition in all markets has been understandably tough but this is something we have become used to. The individual expertise and knowledge of each site means we are well placed to provide quality, value-for-money containers to meet individual customer and market requirements." RPC has always placed great

continual investment throughout the

Another machine has been installed at Raunds as part of an important new custom-moulded order for the site. Th installation is part of RPC Group's 67.5

group, in the two year's leading up to

flotation investment totalied in excess of £12 million and a further £7.5 million was invested during 1993/94, mainly in new plant across the five sites. Healthy investment will continue during the coming year with the announcement already of the ourchase of a second factory at Corby.

\*Our aim is to continue to expand the business and build on our marketleading position, while at the same time ensuring that we do not faiter in terms of levels of service or quality," comments Ron Marsh.

The company places equal importance in investment in people. Staff loyalty and commitment have played a vital role in RPC's successful transition from management buyout to public company. Ron Marsh is therefore particularly pleased that the key vacancies which have arisen as a result of the forthcoming retirement of Oakham Director and General Manager Mike Rowley have been filled Internally: Raunds Director and General Manager Philip Hilton will move to Oakham in September with Murray Stone, currently Group Financial Controller, being appointed to take up the reins at Raunds.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL** COMMITMENT

The Board of RPC Group Pic has adopted an Environmental Policy which commits the company to a programme aimed at enhancing its responsibility towards the environment. Specific areas which are being addressed include the improvement of energy efficiency, the reduction of gaseous emissions, the re-use of polymeric scrap, and the development of processes for the incorporation of recycled materials.

In this last area in particular RPC made important strides during 1993/94 with the introduction of two more container ranges incorporating recycled material: custom-moulded HDPE packs for Shell Oils from RPC Raunds and polypropylene paint containers for ICI Dulux produced by RPC Oakham.

A copy of RPC's Environmental Policy is available on request

MAKING SPACE AT CORBY

The 35,000 sq ft freehold premises are close to RPC's existing unit at Corby and will enable the site to continue to expand its blowmoulding and thermoforming operations.

"We had literally run out of room at our existing site," explains RPC Chief Executive Ron Marsh. "Corby has enjoyed excellent growth over the past few years and extra space was needed to cope with an increasing number of orders and an expanding product range."

RPC Group Pic has announced a

£1 million investment in its Corby

operation with the purchase of a

RPC says that although the plastic sauce bottle is now well established in the UK retail market. demand is continuing to grow significantly. Corby's recent successes in this market include a 14% Increase in exports, alded by the launch of a high-gloss version of its retail bottles.

The site has also continued to gain business in the UK catering sauce market, another fast-growing sector particularly since the launch of cook-in sauces developed specially

in addition, Corby is undertaking significant expansion of its thermoforming operation with the introduction a new small pot range. the Alpha, for colesiaw and prepared salads. The pot has already secured a number of major orders from



The opening of a second factory at Corby reflects the continuing success of the site's

leading food manufacturers and

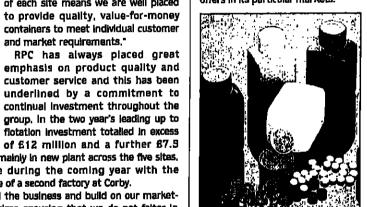
initially the new factory will provide additional warehouse space but eventually all thermoforming production will be transferred there. The existing Corby management team, led by Director and General Manager Peter Hole, will have responsibility for the entire expanded Corby operation.

"The new Corby factory

continues RPC's policy of sustained organic growth," comments Ron Marsh. "Everyone at Corby can be proud of their hard work and achievements which have led to this expansion. With these new oremises we are ensuring that Corby's excellent growth and success can be continued and we look forward to a buoyant future for the new combined site."

### KEEPING IN EACH OTHERS SITES

It has frequently been | acknowledged that a key factor in RPC's success lies in the autonomous operations of its five manufacturing sites and the individual skills and expertise each offers in its particular markets.



Cubitt, the HDPE bottle for pills and apsules, which will now form part of

Nevertheless the company derives equal strength and benefit from the fact that the sites are part of a larger group. This allows RPC maximum flexibility both in meeting particular customer requirements and in identifying and developing opportunities in existing and new

"Our structure provides the best of both worlds," comments Chief Executive Ron Marsh. "While the sites operate in the main as

specialist units, they benefit from being part of a larger organisation in areas such as investment. Nevertheless, even as a group, we also remain a specialised company dedicated to rigid plastics packaging and as such the sites can work together as required on particular loint projects."

For customers, the major benefit is that RPC can offer a 'one stop shop' for all their plastic packaging requirements. Indeed. several major names aiready take containers from more than one site. For RPC itself, the close working relationships between the sites enables the company easily to adapt to changing circumstances or quickly respond to new opportunities as they present themselves

The company has for example been actively pursuing developments in the toiletries and household markets with major investment in the acquisition of equipment from Banbury Plastics during 1993.

While a number of sites have concentrated on this area, the downturn in demand for dilutes drinks packaging at Rushden during last year's poor summer offered spare capacity at the site which could be dedicated to the manufacture of tolletries bottles.

As a result, it was decided to locate all the equipment from the Banbury Plastics acquisition at Rushden and centralise much of RPC's activities in these new

Cuprinol is one major customer to take containers from more than one site in the RPC

RFC Rushden will be taking a leading role in the Group's activities in the tolletries

markets - particularly the development of stock containers - at the site.

Rushden now becomes a multimaterial site for tolletries and household products, offering customers a choice of PVC, HDPE and OPVC containers plus full design facilities for custom-moulded products. A dedicated team, led by Business Manager Jon Wragg, is aiready developing a comprehensive range of stock containers as well as pursuing a number of important leading names.

These important developments have also had beneficial spin-offs throughout the group. With the transfer of certain equipment from Raunds to Rushden, Raunds has been given valuable additional space to install new machinery for a number of exciting custom-moulded

Rushden in turn - in order to make room for the Raunds equipment - has transferred its two PET machines to Blackburn, which over the past two years has deservedly built a name for itself as a leading player in PET container production

The site has in fact become the UK's leading producer of widemouth PET jars and is aiready working on a number of new projects for top UK brands.



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When Entertainment UK automated its packing and distribution area (see page 33) it

There has been a shift in attitude among employers from succeeded in cutting out man al lifting of cases, which or one where work-related injuries of whatever type were reach 25kg in weight, from the just 'things that happened' to entire line. Even so, the many an awareness that the vast profacturer recognises its respons portion of this risk can be bility to look after is climinated by a combination of workforce, and risk assessmen staff training and investment. is currently being carried or Since we first highlighted The company sees its comma the responsibilities of compament to BS5750 quality# nies towards their own work-

another incentive. "A raised awareness of the risks"

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE), for its part, report a raised awareness among com panies of the risks involved and ways of avoiding them-Leaflets from the HSE, including the free Work related upper limb disorders in the printing industry, also promote a greater awareness of ergonomics among workers.

The printing industry leaflet shows how risk can be increased or decreased, and gives examples of how problems have been solved in the industry. Another leaflet. Upper limb disorders: assessing the risks, is also available free from the IHSE (051-709 1354).

PACKACING MEMBERINI V 100

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HP is extending its use of plastic bottles for its brand-leading sauce ranges with the introduction of custom-moulded high-gloss multilayer polypropylene bottles designed and produced by RPC Containers

The high-gloss finish is achieved by a different formulation of polypropylene for the outer layer of the bottle. The combination of materials provides a visuallyappealing, contact-clear bottle which has enhanced appearance on-shelf, maintains HP's quality image and emphasises the premium nature of the products. The oxygen barrier is provided by EVOH.

The introduction of the 550g plastic bottle for HP Fruity reflects the brand's positioning as an alternative to traditional tomato

RPC Containers Corby is

expanding its thermoforming

operations with the introduction of a

new round 101mm diameter

polypropylene pot, the Alpha range,

for prepared salads and colesiaws. In

particular, a high standard of

material finish and quality printing

ensure good overall decoration to

number of major orders for the new

pot including the launch of leading

RPC Corby has already secured a

achieve maximum on-shelf impact.

"Over 40% of tomato ketchup is

CORBY

growing market," comments Katy

Lockwood. "The new pack recognises

the popularity of the plastic pack and

at the same time provides an

appealing new design to help build

the brand further without losing any

RPC Containers Corby is also

supplying a custom-moulded multi-

ayer polypropylene bottle for

special packs of HP's Daddles

Tomato Ketchup featuring Sonic

The unusually-shaped

packs are shrink sleeved with

one of three Sonic poses to

create maximum on-shelf

impact and appeal. The curved

lines of the bottle also make it

easy to handle and squeeze.

important benefits for a

product aimed primarily at

children. The pack is designed

to be collectable as a toy once

RPC used its CAD equipment to

refine the final bottle design which is

sleeved prior to hot filling of the

required a container that would

provide maximum on-shelf impact

and help to emphasise the quality of

the salads themselves, as well as

being practical, consumer-friendly

the RPC pot which has met these

criteria. In particular, the quality of

printwork is excellent and the

packaging overall presents a quality

Image for our product range."

"We have been delighted with

and maintaining product freshness.

of HP's premium-quality image."

the Hedgehog.

now packaged in ' is already the established brand plastics bottles, and 60% is in packs over 500g In size," explains HP Senior Product Manager Katy Lockwood. "HP Fruity is a

PERMITTENANT CONTRACTOR

unique product in its own right with a distinctive tangy flavour and clearly including a plastic pack in the range will help to widen its appeal still further, particularly among tomato ketchup users."

RPC Corby's custom-moulded design for the new bottle was to a specific brief from HP.

"We required an attractive, eye-catching pack that retained all the characteristics and qualities of the HP Brand and the famous original HP bottle," says Katy Lockwood.

SONIC "Using RPC's in-house design team with its CAD facility meant we could easily make minute changes and to be collect modifications to achieve exactly it is empty. what we were looking for."

The new Barbecue Sauce pack marks HP's further development of a rapidly-expanding market in which it

,此文的是是一种,我们是不是一个的,是一种是国人的人,我们们们们,但这个多数是"我们要有的是更是"的。这个,我们,我们还是不够的数字的,更是是一个人的人的,我们

retailer Safeway's premium range of

specially moulded base to further

enhance on-shelf appeal, with a

transparent lid to allow product

visibility. Pull colour printing on both

the pot and lid is provided in-house

and competitive market," comments

Clara Moore, Trade Marketing

Manager at Safeway. "As such we

"Prepared salads are a growing

The Safeway pot features a

prepared salads.

by RPC Corby.

RPC Containers Corby has extended its Eclipse range of multi-layer high barrier polypropylene bottles for retail markets with the introduction of a new largest size 1 kilo (882ml) bottle. The full range now comprises six bottles from "As brand leader we are 308ml. extending and developing this

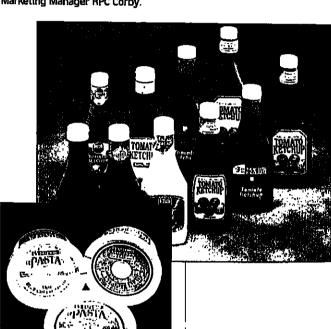
The new bottle, together with 500g and 750g versions, has been selected by leading manufacturer Fisher Quality Foods for own-label tomato sauces produced for several leading retailers.

8 Y. G. L. S. C. D.

"We were looking for an attractive quality bottle in which to package our products without having to create our own special custom design," explains Helen Wise, Brands Manager at Fisher Quality Foods. "The Eclipse range provides a strong family image between the various sizes and the bottles offer all the consumer benefits traditionally associated with plastics packaging.

"Equally Important, the 1 kilo size reflects the growing trend among consumers to trade up to larger size containers. The light weight and squeezability of plastics enables this to be achieved without sacrificing consumer convenience in any way."

The appeal of the Eclipse range will be further enhanced when we offer highgloss PP during the course of this year," comments Nick Meyrick, Sales and Marketing Manager RPC Corby.



RPC Containers Oakham is supplying 2.5 and 5 litre polyropylene paint cans containing 25% recycled plastics to ICI Paints for Its

Dulux Natural Hints range. The project was some 12 months the planning and execution with RPC and ICI carefully addressing a number of Issues crucial to the successful development of the 'recycled" pack. These included the availability and cost-effectiveness of suitable material, the effect of the recyclate on production and the physical performance and appearance of the resulting can.

"It was vital that we produced a can which did not compromise on overall performance or practicality and one which in every respect maintained the quality image and reputation of the ICI Dulux brand," explains RPC Oakham's General Sales Manager Keith Ormrod.

Suitable material is being obtained from a number of sources. including used white food pails from the catering industry, post-consumer dairy containers and used or rejected

paint containers.

医囊毒性乳腺管 网络克姆斯克普通伊德克雷斯特斯特斯马克斯特克

The material is cleaned processed and pelletised by Linpac Recycling to a detailed specification laid down by RPC which enables the 25% recycled material to be incorporated into the packs without slowing down the production cycle. Lengthy tests have confirmed that the packs meet ICI's minimum specification for internal distribution including the ability for filled containers to be stacked two pallets

"As the market leader with a world famous brand name, we are keen to be at the forefront of environmental packaging initiatives." savs Chris Harris, General Manager Dulux Paints Retall. "Our research has shown that

plastic paint containers are preferred by the consumer in the UK. We hope that our pioneering work with RPC will enhance the environmental acceptability of these containers to our customers."

RPC hopes to expand its recycled packs greatly in the future.

## Dulux **SOFT** SHEE

### OAKHAM

医牙髓 翻译 背影 海绵的现在分词

RPC Containers Oakham is supplying 6 litre S Range containers with plastic handles to Benckiser Limited for a new refillable pack for Finish Dishwasher Salt aimed at the Cash and Carry Market.

"We felt the 5kg size was more appropriate for the needs of the cash and carry market," explains Benckiser's Assistant Operations Manager Don Brookes. "In addition, we wanted to offer customers the convenience of a refiliable pack.

"The RPC pall is Ideal for our purposes being lightweight and easy to handle and, with no denting or rusting, particularly appropriate for the long term storage role required of it. We have been delighted with the quality of container supplied by the company."



· 网络伊维亚拉克 医维基尼亚硷阿拉耳 医环苯二十分 

Relaunched Smooth and Textured Masonry Paints with an improved finish from leading supplier Blue Hawk Limited feature brand new 6 colour designs on 5 litre paintainers supplied and printed by RPC Containers Oakham.

"This is a major relaunch for Blue Hawk and we needed eye-catching and attractive new designs to

communicate the changes clearly and effectively to our customers." explains Blue Hawk Group Product Manager, Stuart White.

"We have always been delighted with the quality of containers supplied by RPC. In particular, we are very pleased with the excellent print finish achieved on the containers for our new range."

### RAUNDS

DIRECTOR BOUNDSHIP IN THE SECOND SERVICE

in this project and has developed a

range of products which we believe

will compete very successfully in this

sector," comments Bob Laird,

Marketing Manager for Tate & Lvie

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RPC Containers Raunds is further extending its impact standard container range manufactured in HDPE with the introduction of 0.5 and 1 litre non-

Like the rest of the impact range, the new non-handled packs are designed to bridge the gap between standard and custom-moulded containers and provide an enhanced image for the products they package.

"The new impact containers are a natural extension to our range, meeting demand from customers in many different industries for small, convenient, practical packs which still maintain maximum on-shelf appeal." explains RPC Raunds' Sales and Marketing Manager David Baker.

RPC Raunds says interest in the new packs has come from diverse markets such as automotive, DIY, household chemicals and toiletries.



### RUSHDEN

#### RESIDENCE STATE WEST WAS A STATE OF THE STA A PROPERTY OF THE ARMS AND

RPC Containers Rushden is supplying a new custom-moulded one litre PVC bottle for Robinsons Whole Fruits and Special R ranges.

The striking new bottle presents a more contemporary image of Robinsons while making more efficient use of space on shelf and in customer warehouses.

The main change is in bottle shape - the new design is narrower in diameter, which makes it easier for children to pour. The new pack

RPC Containers Rushden Is

The new container, based on

supplying a unique twin aperture 30

litre container for leading chemical

RPC's existing 30 litre "square-

round large container, is the result

of extensive development work

between the two companies and is

vented cap for the main aperture

with a secondary trisure 3/4 inch

bung on the other side of the top of

The mono-layer HMPE container

used to pack Hydrogen Peroxide.

features two closures - a 60

distributor Ellis & Everard.

also takes up significantly less space on sheif. Other changes include a new

'lemon squeezer' feature at the top of the bottle which emphasises the Robinsons brand's fruit refreshment proposition. However the new bottle retains the 'roundness' seen as a core brand attribute by consumers. in research, the bottle was preferred by 77 per cent of consumers and. while modern, does not allenate Robinson's sizeable consumer base.

this particular twin aperture

Special heavy duty HMPE is used

combination has been used in a large



#### Raunds' development of polypropylene production to accompany its existing HDPE

THE RUSHDEN BAVELOPS UNIQUE LARGE CONTAINER The new squeezable polypropylene bottles are consumer-friendly and easyfor this application because of the to-use. They feature colouraggressive nature of the product coordinated polypropylene being packed and the containers pop-up lids with tamper have received UN Packing Group II evident seals and colourful labels to provide maximum on-shelf - as well as tabletop - Impact. To give the

business.

bottles further appeal, a 'swiri' design has been moulded into

"Tate & Lyle has invested heavily

RPC Containers Raunds Is

supplying custom-moulded 400a

polypropylene bottles to Tate & Lyle

for the launch of the company's new

'Tops' dessert topping range. This

major order continues RPC

Sugars. "Packaging is obviously an important factor for visual impact to encourage trial, and for consumer

convenience in the home. In addition our pre-launch research highlighted the strength of the Tate & Lyle name particularly in offering top-quality products - so our packaging needs to reflect and promote this

image. "We have been very pleased with RPC's contribution to the project. both in terms of the company's creative input and its CAD facilities which enabled us easily and quickly to adjust and refine the original design, as well as the quality of the finished containers and RPC's ability to create the 'swirl' effect in the neck of the bottle."

Mr Laird added that the entire packaging of the 'Tops' range had scored very highly in pre-launch

#### ENSURING THE CORRECT PRODUCT IMAGE

can be difficult to justify the costs of

designing and producing custom-

Containers from RPC Raunds' Impact range have been selected by Cuprinol Ltd for the launch of two product ranges.

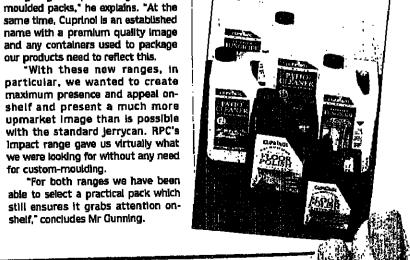
containers are being used to package floor polishes as part of the company's new 'Enhance' waxes and polishes range, while 2.5 and 5 litre containers have been chosen for three products in the revised and repackaged Cuprotect range.

In both instances, says Cuprinol Ltd's Purchasing Manager lan Gunning, the impact containers were selected for the on-shelf appeal and premium image which this standard

"With the launch of new or

and any containers used to package our products need to reflect this. "With these new ranges, in particular, we wanted to create maximum presence and appeal onshelf and present a much more upmarket image than is possible with the standard Jerrycan. RPC's Impact range gave us virtually what

for custom-moulding. \*For both ranges we have been able to select a practical pack which still ensures it grabs attention onshelf," concludes Mr Gunning.



### BLACKBURN

#### PAT JAN SIGNALS CHANGE IN COMACIMATOM

RPC Containers Blackburn is supplying a 4.5 litre amber tinted PET jar for Makro's range of own-brand instant coffees for the catering industry.

Makro's move into PET represents a major departure from the more conventional lever lid tins traditionally used in this market. "We are very market-focused and develop products both to meet and anticipate changing customer requirements," explains Barry Wilkes of Makro. "With the new PET jars, we have created an attractive pack which, equally

Important, is also practical and convenient to use. "We are very pleased with the new packs. In particular, they are being produced to a very high standard, commensurate with Makro's own standing in the marketolace."

#### SOLE SUPPLY DEAL GIVES BLACKBURN CLEAR ADVANTAGE

RPC Containers Blackburn has been appointed sole supplier of PET Jars for leading speciality food company L Noel & Sons Ltd, to package the company's catering range of herbs, spices and speciality food ingredients. Four sizes of jars are being supplied - 485ml, 905ml, 1850ml and 2,27 litre.

Noel's manufactures a comprehensive selection of speciality foods for the catering trade. Packaging is very important to the company both in terms of safety in a busy catering environment and for its particular range of products all of which have a high visual appeal.



### COMPERZY PER A PIREZ ROK BUACKBURN

RPC Containers Blackburn is producing a new squeezy 340ml PET bottle to package CPC UK Ltd's brand leading HELLMANN'S Mayonnaise.

The concept of squeezy PET was originally developed in the United States where a squeezy bottle for HELLMANN'S has been available for some time. CPC UK Ltd approached RPC Blackburn, who already supply the company with PET catering jars and polypropylene small pots, to develop a similar bottle for the UK

Key to the 'squeezy' nature of the bottle is its oval shape. "PET in itself is a strong robust material and not particularly easy to squeeze so the design of the bottle is critical." explains Philip Jones, RPC Blackbum's

Sales and Marketing Manager. "The oval shape provides a wide middle section where pressure can be most effectively applied to squeeze the pack."

The new bottle is produced in mono-layer PET, offering excellent barrier properties to maintain product shelf-

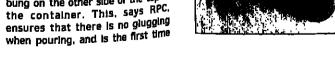
For CPC, the squeezy PET bottle combines the traditional benefits of PET - sparkling clarity, lightness in weight and resistance to shattering. the last two particularly

Important for a frequently-handled food product - with the additional consumer-convenience of accurate portion control.

"HELLMANN'S is a brand leader and it is therefore fitting that we should offer a first in the marketplace with the introduction of a popular squeezy bottle format in PET." comments CPC UK's Purchasing Manager Peter Laycock. "At the same time it was essential that we retained the correct image and positioning for the product. The new ttle is an attractive shape and the clarity of the PET contributes to the brand's impact on retail shelves."

HELLMANN'S is a registered trade mark of CPC international inc.





Leading tolletries manufacturer Bodycare Tolletries Ltd has selected RPC Rushden's stock | litre and 500ml toiletries bottles to package a range of products for leading Hong Kong chemist chain Watson's.

The RPC bottles have attractive curved lines for maximum on-shelf impact. In addition, OPVC offers excellent sparkle and clarity, essentia to complement the premium image of packaged products. There is a shelf and in the home.



### TOLETRIES HOTTLES' HONG KONG SUCCESS

wide area for labels. The material also offers practical advantages such as being safe and easy to handle and providing good strength at light weights both on

"The bottles are attractive and practical and provide the ideal packaging for our products. comments Ron Metheringham. Joint Managing Director, Bodycare

Certification. \*These containers form an important part of our new

development, comments David

Morton, Product Manager, Ellis & Everard. "As such they need to be practical and user-friendly and project a quality image. We have been delighted with RPC's technical input and the container which has resulted. In particular the unique anti-glug feature is a major boon for the packaging of this type of

1 and 2 litre size impact

container range projects.

revised products - particularly in the flercely competitive DIY market - it

Rushden is perhaps best known for its market-leading developments in PVC and OPVC since the mid-1980s particularly the bottles supplied to top names and leading brands in the dilutes drinks market – the site has nevertheless also enjoyed similar successes in the large

container market. Like all markets served throughout the RPC Group, Rushden's involvement in large containers has not been a 'me-too' operation to rival other suppliers. Rather the

site has developed several innovations in its range of Containers over the years. For example, its rectangular container with special interlocking top and base for easy stacking has

won many major orders since its introduction in 1992: the installation of a £900,000 Krupp Kautex machine last year has enabled the site to be the first UK company to offer a visi-stripe facility on a large container; and last month RPC Rushden introduced a unique new twin-aperture container for hazardous products.

Plans are now well advanced for the site to receive NAMAS (National Accreditation Measurement System) Certification to enable it to test containers to UN Group I and II

Although RPC Containers i classification which is endorsed by PIRA by Issue of a UN Certificate.

accreditation will eliminate this wait The move reflects the growing accreditation, RPC Rushden has number of customers seeking UN Certification ahead of a change in UK regulations in 1995, which will make the classification mandatory for the transportation of any type of

invested over £50,000 in a purpose built test laboratory. The stringent requirements demanded of UN classification include drop tests onto all sides and corners of the container at -18°c, a month-long stack test at 40°c. nius a hydraulic

carry out our own tests and

As part of its work towards

pressure test and an air leak test under water, all designed to test a container's performance to extremitles and In particular assess it for signs of leaking.

Like BS 5750 quality accreditation. strict regulations are set down for the attaining of NAMAS accreditation. Assessors check not

only that all test equipment is of the proper standard but carry out regular update visits to ensure the quality of testing is being maintained and records kept accurately and up-to-date.

"NAMAS accreditation will enable us to further improve our customer service in the large container market and build on the successes we have already achieved.\* concludes Jim Kellock.

"Equally Important, I am

delighted that we have been able to

fill the vacancies arising from Mike's

retirement internally. Our policy has

always been one of promotion from

within whenever possible and the

strength in depth and commitment

of staff at all levels has allowed us to

excellent job at Raunds, both

building on successes in existing

markets and developing new

opportunities, as well as overseeing

the introduction of polypropylene

container manufacture at the site.

Murray Stone also has made an

outstanding contribution in his

current role and richly deserves this

advancement. I wish them both

every success in their new roles."

"Philip Hilton has done an

implement this.



in extracts from an article prepared for World Plastics and Rubber Technology, RPC Blackburn's Sales and Marketing Manager Philip Jones looks at the success and popularity of PET.

A recent report from AMA Research found that the European market for PET packaging nearly doubled in the five years to 1992. Not surprisingly perhaps, food and drink packaging accounts for 95% of the blow moulded market with PET bottles being the largest sector. Another sector where PET is now also particularly strong - an area identified and developed by RPC Blackburn since the early 1990s - is large wide mouth Jars for confectionery products or for catering size packs of sauces and mayonnaise.

These successes are an indication of the inroads which PET has made into what were once traditional strongholds for glass. Like other plastics, PET offers particular benefits in terms of its lightness in weight, easy handling properties and its high resistance to shattering - very strong selling points when packaging food and drink products.

PET also has a low oxygen transmission rate, thereby offering excellent barrier properties to help keep foods fresh.

In addition, a key reason for PET's success in markets previously dominated by glass is the material's excellent clarity and 'sparkle'. This is a vital feature in highly competitive markets such as food, drink and tolletries where purchasing decisions can be strongly influenced by overall appearance.

It is not surprising therefore that PET continues to expand into consumer markets. For example, several leading confectionery and snack brands now use PET for their Christmas jars as opposed to glass. Nevertheless, PET is also creating its own opportunities. Last year RPC Blackburn worked with KP Foods to produce the unique PET tube for KP's market-leading peanuts range, an Important part of KP's initiative to reposition the peanut within the buoyant snack food market and encourage more impulse purchases.

Another new development from RPC is a squeezy PET bottle. Some coffee brands are also being packed in PET - initially catering sizes but the trend could well spread to retail packs. In addition, other markets such as tolletries and pharmaceuticals offer further excellent development opportunities.

Of course, the success of PET is not just the result of the material itself. To make the best use of any raw material also requires up-to-date knowledge and skill. PET jars may often look simple in shape but that belies the technical expertise required to make them efficiently, in large numbers, while maintaining their quality



PETs quality appearance is a major benefit in competitive markets where purchasing ions can be strongly influenced by overall appearance and where the visual impact of product and its container can help to enhance or convey an image of quality.

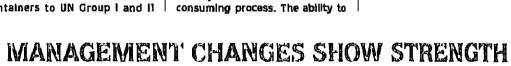
Take for example the KP Nuts tube. Although the design is simple to look at and use, its size requires particular expertise to produce it on the scale required. Production of the neck has to be extremely precise to enable the easy fitting of an induction seal cap. Each mould also has to be accurately manufactured as the packs are fed on-line into a sleeving machine immediately after moulding.

RPC Blackburn has become the UK's leading producer of wide mouth PET Jars. In achieving this position since the early 1990s we have invested some £3 million in the relevant machinery. Our machine specification also offers us the flexibility to design containers with neck diameters from as low as 28mm up

RPC's injection stretch blowmoulding process is a four stage operation. Among the benefits of the process, the injection moulding of the neck enables It to be produced to high tolerances. Equally important, the subsequent of the container ensures an even and consistent distribution of the material throughout. This helps to produce the clarity and sparkling properties of the finished container while also being particularly beneficial for the lightweighting of packs.

PET looks assured of continued success. Its versatility is likely to continue to open up new markets and applications while its quality appearance may also offer it further opportunities in more established markets. Certainly RPC Blackburn, as the UK's top supplier of wide mouth Jars with a comprehensive range of containers and full CAD design back-up, is actively prolyed in the development of new areas and the consolidation and expansion of existing

• RPC Blackburn's innovative custom-moulded PET tube for KP Nuts has won a Silver Star in the institute of Packaging's recently-announced Starpack



IN DEPTH

innovative product launches, most

recently the first plastic paint cans

to incorporate post-use recycled

material, and overseen the

establishment of first the Corby and

then the Blackburn sites and their

subsequent moves to full autonomy

within the RPC Group. He was also a

key figure in both the original RPC

management buyout of 1991 and

the Company's subsequent stock

contribution to the RPC Group and

his wealth of knowledge and

experience has been an invaluable

asset in particular during the

exciting and challenging times of the

past three years." comments Chief

Executive Ron Marsh. "Everyone In

the company wishes him a long.

happy and prosperous retirement.

"Mike has made an enormous

market flotation last vear.

The new purpose built tost laboratory at RPC Rushden.

will enable us to provide a faster

service to our customers requiring

UN Group II or the more rigorous UN

Group | Cartification," explains

Rushden's Business Manager for

Large Containers Jim Kellock. "We

already manufacture a great many

containers to the required standard

but obtaining the official certificate

for this from a third party testing facility can often be a time-

"Attaining NAMAS accreditation

hazardous goods in this country.

RPC's Oakham's Director and General Manager Mike Rowley retires in September this year. Philip Hilton, currently Raunds' Director and General Manager, takes over at Oakham while Group Financial Controller Murray Stone will be the new General Manager at Raunds.

Mike Rowley has spent almost his entire career in the packaging industry. After time with John Waddington and Bowater, he joined Reed International in 1964 and has specialised in plastics packaging for the past 28 years, the last 8 as General Manager of RPC's Oakham

Among his many achievements during this time, he has seen the site consolidate its position as the UK's leading plastic paint container manufacturer with a number of

The Total Paint Group - comprising leading industry names Johnstone's confirmed RPC as its sole supplier for all three companies will be served by RPC's two sites at Oakham and Blackburn. supplying Fabrans. Paintainers and S

The deal confirms RPC's status as the UK's leading supplier of plastic containers for the paint and surface coatings market.

"We have always enjoyed an excellent working relationship with RPC Containers," comments Bob Baguley. Buyer at Johnstone's Paints, "With any long-term order involving one supplier the key criteria we are looking for are product quality, consistency and a high level of customer service. RPC is able to fulfil all these requirements and we look forward to a continuing successful essociation in the future."



If you would like further information about any of the products featured here, please contact the relevant sales department at the addresses below or for a copy of our company brochure, contact Corinne Lawrence at our Raunds factory



RPC Containers. siingden Road, Guide, Biackburn, Lancs BB1 2PX. 3lephone: 0254 682298 Fax: 0254 583752,

41 A

RPC Containers, Sallow Road, Weldon Industrial Estate, Corby, Northants NN17 5.1X Telephone: 0536 263488 Fax: 0536 205493.

RPC Containers. Kilburn Road, Oakham Leicestershire LE15 6QL. Telephone: 0572 723771 Fax: 0572 756829 Telex: 341257 RPC Containers, Grove Street. Raunds, Northants NN9 62D. (Registered Office) Telephone: 0933 623311 Fax: 0933 622126

RPC Containers. Northampton Road, Rushder Northants NN10 GAL. Telephone: 0933 59136 Fax: 0933 410406/410093

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Issue No. 10



Eggs, the ideal medium for carrying a message to the early bird.

### **EGGVERTISING GOES AHEAD IN BRITAIN**

Millions of eggs carrying advertisments for BT, the British telecommunications company, are now in stores throughout the UK, thanks to Willett technology and a ruling by the EU that advertising on eggs could go ahead

Eggvert Ltd, the company which developed the new advertising medium, joined forces with Willett to produce a suitable system for printing messages and logos onto eggs following Willett's ploneering work on inks suitable for printing directly onto foodstuffs

Using Willett small character ink jet printers, special orlnting systems, known as EggSignia, were installed on egg grading and packing lines at 25 packing stations used by Britain's leading egg suppliers. Willett printers ware selected, as they operate at high speed and do not Tow down the packing operation in any way.

The advertisements on the eggs are promoting new, ower charges for the use of telephones in the morning aggs are seen as the ideal medium for getting the message across, as they are primarily a breakfast food.

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Willett technology is ready to meet future challenges.

## INDUSTRY ON THE MOVE

Alan Barrell - Group Managing Director

Industrial innovation and change are part of our daily lives. The speed of change is increasing. Manufacturing industry operates under ever-growing pressure with companies competing in global markets. Environmental pressures, regulatory demands and social policies are generating new requirements, and we need to work ever harder to gain efficiency and keep production costs under

In the fields of product identification, data capture and the use of information technology to control manufacturing, packaging and distribution operations, the Willett company continues to work hard to shape itself for an uncertain and ever-changing future so we can continue to meet the needs of you, our customers.

Develop distribution networks

Some parts of the world (for example, the Asia Pacific region and South America) are growing industrially much more rapidly than others. We are planning, therefore, not only to cope with supporting customers worldwide needing coding, marking and labelling equipment and all of the systems and supplies that go with them, but also to develop our own company's distribution networks rapidly in order to cover all of the fast growing industrial countries

The product range continues to evolve producing the broadest catalogue of industrial ink jet printers, a growing array of labelling systems and electronic foil printers. There is also a heightened locus on the development of products and activities to satisfy the growing need for consumable industrial supplies. Significant investments are being made to make available complete systems as the manufacturing world seeks to automate and mechanise even more

Meaningful working partnerships

All of this requires that we reshape our organisation to cope with the change and to run efficiently to meet the existing requirements of our customers. Our plans seek to make the Willett company capable of forming closer and more meaningful working partnerships with industrial customers around the world.

We invite all readers with problems or challenges to tackle in the fields of industrial coding, marking, labelling,



data capture and systems integration to call on us and to provide the opportunity for us to tell you more about the services we feel able to offer as a partner helping your business to run more effectively.



product identification and systems integration The Willett extended logo has already been changed to incorporate the growing range of products Willett offers.

### **WILLETT WINS SECOND** QUEEN'S AWARD FOR **EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT**

Willett has been awarded The Queen's Award for Export Achievement 1994 following initial success in 1989 when Willett won the same award.

Over 90% of Willett's UK manufacturing is exported to over 70 countries worldwide. Willett's policy of setting up its own sales organisation places the company in a

Continued on Page 2



The team at Willett in Corby celebrate a second Queen's Award for Exports.

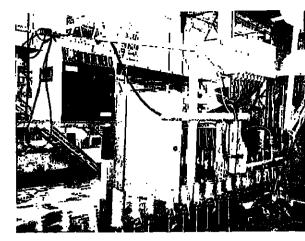


### **BREWING GROUP** CHOOSES WILLETT

Willett distributor Servicios de Codification y Controles in Colombia has secured an order for 26 Willett small character ink jet printers from Bavaria Brewery, the fifth largest brewing group in the world. As well as plants in Spain, Portugal and Ecuador, Bavaria has 16 plants in

The Willett inkijet printers are being installed at half of the plants, which between them have 52 bottling lines, some rurining at 2000 boilties a minute. They are to be used to print a two line code on the tops of the bottles.

The company won the order against stiff competition. due to the lower running costs and superior back-up. available for the Willett equipment.



Willett ink jet printers are used on the high speed lines at the Bavaria Brewery plants.

**ROYAL VISITOR** 

our photograph.

AT HEADQUARTERS

His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent paid a visit to the

Willett Headquarters at Corby recently. He toured the

manufacturing facilities and was shown a number of recent

developments from Willett including the new

programmable overprinter which is being demonstrated in

The Willett 2760 adds clear information to nut and sullars

The Willett 2760 programmable overprinter has been

selected by an Austrian company to replace hot foil

A.B. Lilabadi packs pistachios and raisins for sale

throughout Europe, and, until recently, all the packs were

marked with a basic code using hot foil printing. Now

Lilabadi has replaced these coders with Willett 2700

printers and is not only able to print much clearer codes

carrying more information but is able to include variable

The Willett 2760s are mounted on the company's form.

fill, seal machines which operate at up to 75 packs a

minute. The codes now used on the packs contain a

mixture of alphanumeric and bar coded information as

statistics. Statistics are used because the very definition

of random vibration says we cannot predict what will be

PRINTER SMARTENS

**UP NUT PACKS** 

Willett Scholar Robert Clarke

information.

111

### MUSIC DISTRIBUTOR ADOPTS BAR CODING

STATISTICAL ENERGY ANALYSIS

What does a rocket launch have to do with protective packaging? The connection is SEA or Statistical Energy

Willett Scholar Robert Clarke has been studying SEA at Oxford University under Dr Andrew J Keane in what is

Analysis, something used by engineers for the last 20 years to measure the effects of impact and vibration on many

SEA was first developed to study and measure the noise and vibratory motion of payloads during rocket launches. A

model was developed to simulate a deviation of what is called the transport theory. It is modelling which looks at the

believed to be the first study to apply SEA to packaging. Clarke has been involved with vibration testing in the United

States and is a graduate of Michigan State University's School of Packaging. However it was the Willett Scholarship

work is still theoretical at this point but he intends to show that SEA has practical applications and believes it could have monumental consequences for the packaging industry and the way goods are packaged to prevent damage

Proper protection level

level of random vibration input.

Exposure of a product to these input energies helps

determine the relative level of fragility which is needed to

develop a package system that gives the proper

protection level at the lowest cost while considering

environmental constraints at the same time. As you can

The study of electro-mechanical product design and the

proper packaging must incorporate these concepts of

energy. A new way to study the effects of vibration

energy is to apply Statistical Energy Analysis (SEA) to the

product and package system. SEA is a means to predict

what will happen to a product when it is exposed to some

Since we have discussed why the energy analysis is

important, we should also explain why we need to include

imagine, this is not always an easy thing to do.

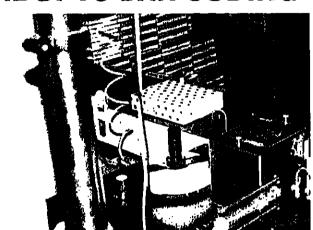
which gave him the chance to study at St Catherine's College, Oxford, where he first encountered SEA. Most of the

Here ROBERT CLARKE explains the theory behind SEA and how it can be used to the advantage of the packaging

A system involving four Willett printer/applicators and eight bar code readers has been installed in the plant of a Spanish music club to automate the malling of records, tapes and CDs to club members.

Planeta de Agestini is the biggest company of its kind in Spain and the third largest in Europe, Every day thousands of packages are processed for mailing to members all over Spain. Now the sorting of the packages. is carried out automatically by using bar coded labels.

As they enter the first part of the system all packages have a 2 of 5 bar code label applied to them by a Willett printer/applicator. This code contains details of the pack contents and the address of the customer. Further down the line the code is scanned and the information passed to a PC which feeds further details to a second Willett printer/applicator. This unit prints a larger label carrying three 2 of 5 bar codes plus the customer address and a post office stamp. This label is then scanned and the parcel is routed automatically to the correct postal sack for the region in which the customer is located.



Using bar codes all parcels are routed to the correct mail bag.

#### SECOND QUEEN'S AWARD

Continued from Page 1

types of structures.

and its package system.

Spectral Density (PSD).

stronger position to control its own aftermarket. guarantee its own reputation, and gain closer contact with customers and ever changing market needs. The company has benefitted from feedback from its sales companies and distributor partners which has assisted development of new products and product enhancements, whilst meeting European, North American and Japanese safety and performance standards.

Solid international operation Commenting on The Queen's Award, Allan Willett said. "By combining our high tech products with dynamic marketing, we have built a solid, medium-sized international operation with a turnover in excess of £50. million, employing 600 people worldwide. I attribute our success to our controlling the quality of our products and services through our own worldwide distribution network.

"Today, the information technology revolution means."

input, throughput and output of energy into a given subsystem.

The study of damage is about energy, since without

some form of energy flowing into a product there can be no

damage. This energy often takes the form of shocks or

vibration, and, if it is not guarded against, it can result in a

pile of expensive junk. While energy can take other forms,

these two are given the most importance for evaluating the

inherent ruggedness (or weakness) of any given product

Most people think of energy as a combination of shocks

and vibratory inputs, and this is entirely right, though, in

reality, each is a form of energy in its own right. In shock,

designers need to be concerned with the magnitude and

shape of the shock pulse as well as the associated

velocity change. The velocity change is often considered

a measure of the energy content of the pulse of Power

instant communications and the ability for almost anything to be made anywhere. As the only manufacturer and supplier of coding, labelling and bar code printing products with such a worldwide network of our own sales companies and distributors, Willett is at the forefront of

### **New Sales Office for Willett in Finland**

Willett has expanded its sales operation in Finland, through Willett OY, a wholly owned subsidiary of Willett International

The General Manager of the new office will be Kati Lehmonen. Kati has considerable experience in business management in Finland and overseas

Joining Kati will be Benita Trog and Harri Haapalainen, who most people will know for their work with the previous distributor OY Mark-Tech AB.

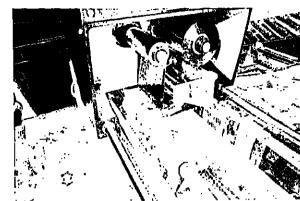
Benita will take up the position of Sales Administrator. and Harri will look after service. We wish them all every

### TRIALS WITH WILLETT OVERPRINTER LEAD TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION

confectionery manufacturer Craven Sweetmate Ltd has purchased two of the Willett 2760 programmable electronic overprinters launched last year.

Craven Sweetmate needs to add best before and use by dates as well as production information to its products. Previously this was carried out as an off-line operation through the use of labels applied by a hand gun. The Willett 2760 enables the information to be added to the packaging material itself immediately before the bags are formed and filled. The information can be changed in an instant as the packaging machines are running.

Craven Sweetmate has a great many short runs of product destined for many different markets and the use of the Willett 2760 has not only improved the appearance of the packs but considerably reduced downlime on the high speed lines on which the sweets are packed.



The packaging material is coded immediately before being formed into bags.

### A NEW ERA FOR BUSINESS IN LATIN AMERICA

Miguel Jover - Regional Sales Manager The Americas



**GROWTH IN THE LATIN AMERICAN MARKET** 

Now that military forces are no longer in power and terrorism is decreasing substantially, democracy is being implemented everywhere. This initial political stability has created more confidence throughout Latin America to invest and led to a growth in business.

In the last two years, internal demand and overseas exports have grown. In consequence the need to mark, code and label has also grown. Naturally these factors are very positive for Willelt because it gives us greater opportunities and it is our job to find them and profit from

To be able to reach the entire market, Willett started to look for new representatives in each one of the Latin American countries. Today this has been achieved and we have distributors in every country. All of whom are

active and growing. Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela are countries where our representatives have already made significant improvements and progress with Willett products.

It is also rewarding to note that a good atmosphere and relationship exists between the distributors and Willett. One could use the term "family".

THE FUTURE

To face the growing needs of business, Willett has been making changes to produce a more effective organisation. There are still great opportunities for progress in Latin America but there is no doubt that the first steps have been in the right direction. Today this organisation is reflected in our sales.

There is also no doubt that we have vastly improved in presenting ourselves as a coding company, not just as an ink jet company. We are opening doors that in the past were difficult. Partnerships with label converters and OEMs are more and more frequent

CONCLUSION

The market is growing. There is a solid and dynamic structure in place to face markets, the products are good and Willett is a company that is investing more and more in technical improvements and new products. From our point of view all these factors combine to produce a good formula for success.

### INK JET OVERCOMES **CODING PROBLEM** ON CONDUITS

The Willett ink jet printer was originally installed to code

**SPECIALITY ICES** 

**CODED CLEARLY** 

A Willett small character ink jet printer installed by ice

cream manufacturer Jaconelli Ice Cream has proved so

versatile it is being used to tackle more tasks than

Jaconelli Ice Cream, a family firm based in Scarborough

in the North of England, produces speciality ice cream.

The Willett ink jet printer was originally installed to add a

five digit best before and lot code to the rim of plastic tubs

The printer proved so successful that, as Jaconelli

became more familiar with its capabilities, its use was

extended. Now it is used to code a wide range of

products, including bombes, ice cream truffles, cassala

As well as coding up to 9,000 tubs of ice cream a day,

the Willett ink jet printer is also now used to add

information to 30,000 individual portions as well as outer

Tia Maria ice cream tubs.

originally intended.

of Tra Maria liqueur ice cream.

and real fruit ice cream.

cartons holding products.

Codes, some up to 100 characters in length, are being added to a wide range of electrical conduit, trunkings and associated accessories manufactured by Mita (UK) Ltd using Willett small character ink jet printers.

The products are sold within the UK and exported to all parts of the world. The uses range from domestic and light industrial to heavy duty applications in the chemical and oil industries. Information applied to the products includes reference numbers, dimensions, the company name, country of manufacture and BS5750 accreditation.

Mita had tried several ways of applying this information including hot foil printing, thermal transfer printing, selfadhesive labelling and ink jet printing using equipment from rival companies. None met Mita's requirements exactly until Willett's small character ink jet printers were tried. These not only gave the quality of print and printing

speed required but proved economical to run as well. Willett printers have now been installed on five of the lines at Mita's plant in North Wales along with special Willett designed software to control the coding operation.

### WINE CASE IDENTIFIED AUTOMATICALLY

With its wine being sold under thousands of brand names In many different countries, Chilean wine producer Concha-y-Toros was eager to find a way of correctly dentifying the cases of wine automatically.

At the same time the company needed to print a batch number onto each individual bottle of wine and ensure the correct product is packed into each outer case, despite the thousands of brand names and sub-brand names

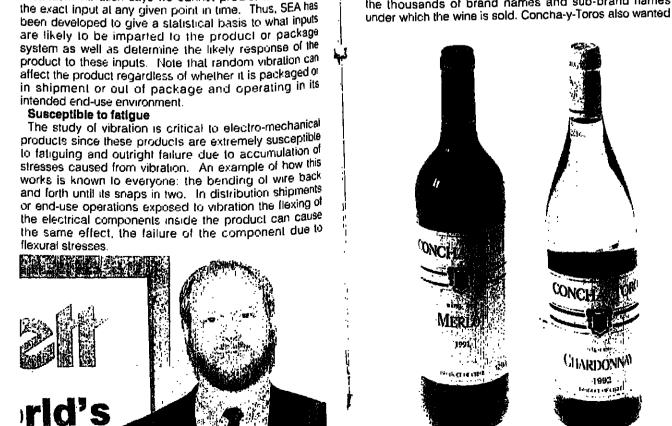


Concha-y-Toros produces thousands of differently labelled Wines and all the cases are correctly identified thanks to

to print its own world famous logo on every case. Through its Chilean joint venture company in Santiago,

Willett was able to step in with the perfect solution in the form of the Willett 3170/900 ink jet printer. The 3170/900 is capable of printing large amounts of variable information and has the ability to accept information from other equipment.

Linked to coding unit Working with the engineers at Concha-y-Toros, the Willett team has been able to link the Willett 3170/900 to the coding unit marking every bottle with a code. This ensures that the cases into which the bottles are packed always receive the same code as the bottles. In addition, the cases are printed with the correct logo, the brand



name and the wine type.	
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For more information on Willett pro return this coupon to your local Wil	ducts and services tick the appropriate box and lett supplier. See Back Page for address.
☐ Large character ink jet printers.	NAME
Small and micro character ink jet printers.	POSITION
<ul><li>Laser coding and marking systems.</li><li>Pressure sensitive Labellers.</li></ul>	COMPANY
<ul><li>Print/Apply Labellers.</li><li>Stand alone label printer dispensers.</li></ul>	ADDRESS
☐ Flexible Packaging Overprinters.	
Arrange for a salesperson to call.	POSTCODE
	TEI



### **Quality Approval for Entire Willett Range**

Back in the late 1980's Willett Systems Limited was one of the first companies to respond to customer demands for higher Quality Coding products by the introduction of a



Quality is designed and built into the entire Willett range of products.

### FILTER CODING IMPROVED

Truck air filters manufactured by the Donaldson Corporation of Stevens Point, Winconsin, were traditionally identified using a hand stamping system, but, for some time, the company has been searching for a method of upgrading the marking process.

Following a visit to the Pack Expo exhibition, Donaldson decided that ink jet printing could be the answer and asked a number of manufacturers, including Willett, to demonstrate their equipment in a production environment. The trials led Donaldson to select Willett small character ink jet printers as the most suitable for the task.

Donaldson now uses Willett printers running with a special water washable MEK alkali ink to add information. to the top or side of the filters. The ink passed a number of tests initiated by Donaldson to assess the ease with which it could be removed from the filters when required.



Water washable ink is used to code truck air filters.

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Sweden Wilest AB Box 194 274 00 Strang Tol +46 (0) 411 450 10 Fac: +46 (0) 411 421 82

#### Qualty improvement programme, in December 1991 this resulted in the company being awarded ISO 9001 registration of its inklet division.

This much coveted and demanding Quality management standard is now internationally accepted as the guarantee of Quality companies which design and manufacture Quality products.

Flot content or complacent, the Willett organisation is continuously improving its quality control systems, as of March 1994 not only inkjet printers but all of the products within the extensive Willett range are covered by the ISO 9001 registered Quality system.

To reflect this change, the scope of Willelt approval has been amended by the British Standards Institution (BSI) and now reads 'The Design and Manufacture of Coding, Marking and Labelling equipment and consumables'.

The extent of this scope of approval is unique to Willett and is unrivalled in the Coding and Identification Industry.

#### **DOES CHIP AFFECT YOU?** Anyone packing or transporting chemicals should be

aware that the CHIP regulations came into force throughout the EU in September 1993 and, if they are affected by the regulations, they have until September 1st 1994 to comply.

The regulations, Chemicals (Hazards Information and Packaging), cover all hazardous chemicals packed into containers. Labelling of all containers is an important part of CHIP. All packages used for dangerous chemicals must be labelled with the name, address and telephone number of the supplier, the name of the substance or trade name, it it is a preparation, an indication of the dangers and the associated symbols, the correct risk phrases and safety phrases.

Many companies are revising their labelling operations in the light of CHIP. Where manufacturers have a wide range of products computer label origination software, thermal transfer label printers or even print/apply systems are

If you need information on CHIP, Willett can help, so that you don't get caught out this September.

### SYSTEM ENSURES THE **RIGHT PICTURES ARRIVE**

The ease of operation and the high print quality of the Willett 2760 programmable overprinter are two of the characteristics leading to its selection by a Norwegian company for addressing photographs for return to

Folo Knudsen specialises in mail order film processing and printing. To ensure the correct photographs are despatched to each customer, a system has been developed using a bar code identifying each film and set of prints. A scanner reads the bar code and passes the correct addressing information to the Willett 2760 which prints the address of the customer, the address of Fold knudsen and a postal logo onto a section of plastic film which is then used to seal the tray ready for posting.

Three Willett 2760s have now been installed by Folo Knudsen. The unit was selected in preference to an ink iet system offered by a rival when Willett was able to demonstrate that the rival ink jet system could not print the postal logo to the standards required by the post office.



Trays are sealed using film printed by the Willett overprinter.

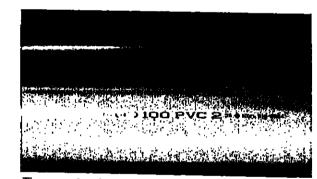
### SIMPLE SOLUTION LEADS TO HUGE ORDER

Turkey Ukraina

REGIONAL OFFICE

NORTH/CENTRAL/SOUTH AMERICA REGIONAL OPFICE

A bit of lateral thinking has enabled Willett distributor Siamatic of Thailand to win a huge order for Willett small character ink jet printers.



The correct codes are now printed easily, thanks to the solution provided by Willett's distributor Slamatic.

Siam Pipes has installed 55 Willett ink jet printers on the lines extruding a wide variety of different pipes. The company was running some Willett small character ink jet printers as well as some from a competitor.

The information being printed included several special graphics and logos but few characters from the standard character set, and Siam Pipes was looking for a simple

way of inputting the information to the printers. The competitor's solution involved the use of a card carrying the information in bar coded form and a data wand to input the information. Siamatic came up with a much simpler solution: they removed all the unused characters from the software and replaced them with the logos, then produced special keypads showing the new

Slam Pipes was delighted with the ease of use of the converted units, as well as the lower running costs and reliability of the Willett units compared to those of the

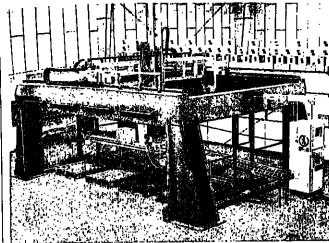
SOUTH EAST ASIA/AU

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REGIONAL OFFICE

Concords Hotel Shoppii Singapore 0316 Tel +65 (0) 2 737 2700 Fax: +65 (0) 2 737 193

### END OF LINE



The pick and place palletisation installation, part of a project by Entertainment UK to automate its packing and distribution

### Pick and place palletising of variable heights

place solution for loading variable height cases onto multiple pallets has been developed by Robotec Ltd as an alternative to manual palletisation, giving much greater flexibility at end of line.

Entertainment UK, a manufacturer of videos, audio tapes, eds and computer games software required a system which could build up to eight pallet loads at once to different destinations while keeping the pallet as balanced and even in height as possible.

While the footprint of each case is the same, at least four heights are used. When cases feed into the palletising area from computerised picking and packing, the system will scan the barcode to identify the correct destination, but also register weight and height to determine the optimum position on that particular pallet load.

When placing subsequent cases on the same pallet - up to six layers - the procedure is repeated until a warning light flashes to tell the operator that the load has reached its maximum height or weight. The robot will perform around eight picks a minute.

### "A moving display screen'

A moving message display screen gives the destination code, the pallet weight and when applicable - the 'pallet full' message. Once a pallet load is complete, the system automatically stops working to allow the operator access to remove it.

Only when a sensor registers the presence of a new pallet will the system restart when the operator reactivates it. A combination of lightguarding and full mesh ensures operator safety around the palletising area.

The installation is part of a project by Entertainment UK to automate its packing and distribution, says development manager Roy Bridgland. While

a large proportion of cases are fed directly into the back of despatch vehicles, the company needs to be able to switch to 100 per cent palletisation if, for example, the distribution procedure changes. This switch would have been difficult relying on manual operators.

Predicting the time taken to arrive at its solution, though technically and logistically the right one, has been difficult for Robotec, says Mr Bridgland.

### "Was keen to cut manual lifting"

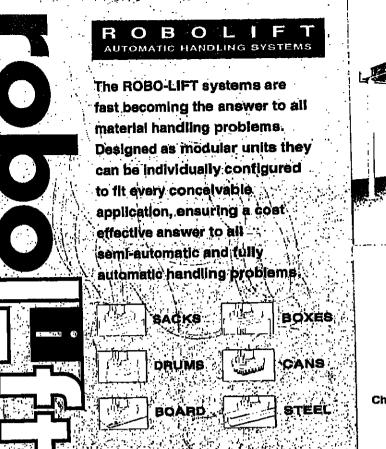
While it is difficult to justify the investment in terms of labour saving, he says, the company was keen to cut down the amount of manual lifting. Naturally, if the company did want to shift to palletisation for all product, then there would be major savings.

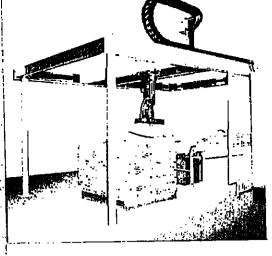
Even though misrouting of product has not been a serious problem up to now, there will also be benefits of accuracy, says Mr Bridgland, Since the company was also responsible for not overloading the vehicles - which are not their own close attention to individual pallet weights was vital.

Entertainment UK supplies over 100 different delivery depots from its Hayes, Middlesex, plant and required a sysround the clock operation.

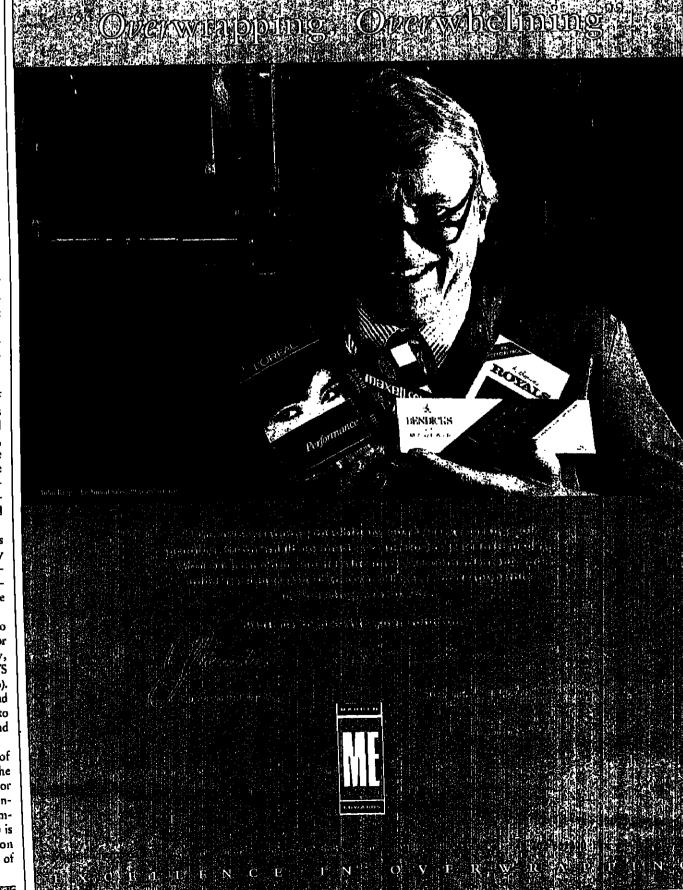
Robotec has just moved to a new site, with more space for manufacture (The Midway, Lenton, Nottingham NG7 2TS - rel: 0602 550055, fax: 550056). Versions of the robot pick and place palletiser are on order to different users for sacks and diy products.

The company's range of palletisers also includes the Smart 500 and 1000. Ideal for snacks and point of sale confectionery, the 500 is a compact system while the 1000 is a heavy weight version designed for high volumes of consumer goods.





Pan amanic HANDLING Cobnar Wood Close Chesterfield Trading Estate, Chesterfie Derbyshire S41 9RQ. Tel:0246 452054 Fax:0246 451379



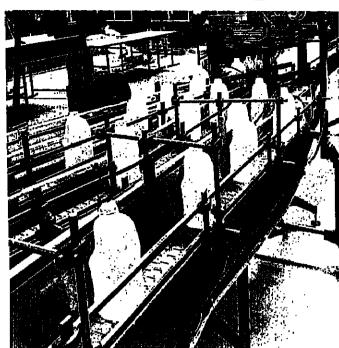
Rather than adapting the

One of the strengths of

The modified line was test-

when it installed the original

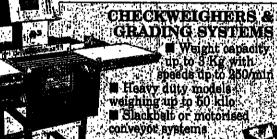
end of line packing. The manu-

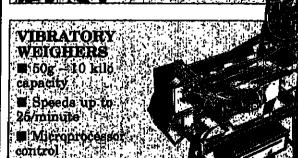


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WHEN ACCURACY & RELIABILITY COUNT 18 Maybrook Industrial Estate, Maybrook Road, Brownhills, Walsall WS8 7DG Telephone: 0543 375566 Facsimile: 0543 375979 cartons for milk packaging and the dramatic rise in plastics bottles has meant the dairies have had to install new end of line machinery.

Since the roll containers and the chilled display units for milk in supermarkets were originally sized to accept gable top milk cartons 40 to a shelf in an 8 x 5 configuration, retailers have demanded an automatic method of loading the hinged front shelved roll containers so that they can simply be wheeled into chilled display units.

However, as cartons still dominate, the supermarkets have been reluctant to change either trolleys or modify shelving to cater for the dimension of the larger plastics containers.

As a result, end of line machinery manufacturer, GBE Lerner Burgess, has had very strict parameters in which to work to design new troller loaders for dairies.

Plastics milk containers are sized to fit into the pocket of a fridge door, but only the six pint bottle can be collated in a straight forward 4 x 3 configuration. The four pint container needs to be loaded 19 bottles to a layer: 4 x 4 and a fifth row of three bottles sideways on. This posed a number of problems. But by creating five lane dividers and placing one row sideways

on, these have been overcome. The three litre container nceds to be loaded 4 x 3 with a urther sideways row of two. To ensure stability during cage oading and in-store off-loading, the cross row of bottles cannot be placed at the front or back of the collation.

Bottles enter the GBE Lerner Burgess TL2 roll container trolley loader in a single row after passing through the labeller, handle and side leading and when a sideways row is required are split into five

At Dairy Crest, Fenstanton, the roll container is loaded through the front. Therefore to achieve the correct facing, the entire collation of bottles is taken on a turntable and rotated 180deg before entering the container. To date the company has

installed six semi-automatic trolley loaders and two fully automatic trolley loaders at Express Dairies in Ruislip. which is the UK's first fully automated dairy.

The five lane dividers place one row sideways to achieve a collation of 19

At Express Dairies in Ruis-

lip, the trolley handling system

uses roll containers with slid-

ing guillotine back through

which the bottles are loaded,

removing the need to turn the

picked up by a robotic arm

and loaded vertically into the

Empty roll containers are

collation 180deg.

descends, the guillotine back is secured, which allows the bottles to move in. The container then slides to the loading point where it can be secured. Completed roll containers then pass to a third station where they exit onto a convevor that carries them into an automated cold store.

Three other machines are also on order, another fully automatic machine and the first GBE two-pint plastics bottle trolley loader at Woodgate Dairy, reflecting the incursion of polybottles into cartonboard's traditional twopint milk market in supermarkets (see PN March 1994).

Typically the TL2 operates at speeds of 160 bottles a minute The proliferation of plastics packaging in the dairy market has led to new end of line machinery being required. Camila Reed reports on GBE Lerner Burgess' custom made trolley loaders being Installed at dairies

to specify polybottles for the packaging of two-point containers could double the number o polybottles in use to around 500 million a year.

> manager of a leading supermarket tells PN that he sees all twopints eventually being packaged in polybor tles. "There is no advantage in polybottles over cartonboard or vice versa. However, people are converting because of the cost involved."

The packaging

Mr Goldsborough of GBE says the machine is cost-effective and less labour intensive. Using this machine at dairies only three operators are needed instead of six or eight people. It also

problems that can go with heavy and continuous lifting.

tles a minute on three litres. Speeds of up to 250 a minute are expected for the two-pint container machine, Steve Goldsborough sales and marketing manager at GBE (Fleming or tour stacks high. Road, Hinckley, Leics LE10 3DU - tel: 0455 613888, fax:

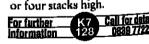


618538) tells PN.

A decision by some retailers

takes away health

on four pints, 90 bottles a minute on six pints and 100 bot-Dairy Crest now has three polybottle lines and two cartonlines, and uses the Lerner Burgess machine for four pints mainly in trolleys either three



## **Bottle shape change challenge**

Changes to the basic shape of a primary pack can have wide implications for the final stages of the packing line, as demonstrated by solutions provided by Europack for pharmaceutical manufacturer Parke Davis. When Listerine antiseptic

mouthwash was repackaged in oval section bottles there were space saving advantages for the manufacturer, but also special challenges for end of line at its factory at Pontypool, Gwent.

Collation was all the more important because the bottles had to be correctly orientated in the trays. The existing line comprised a tray erector, tray loader and shrinkwrapper. Europack's upgrade to the line included lane dividing, a new tray loader and a wraparound tray erector.

Bottle sizes between 200 ind 600ml can be handled on the line, which runs at speeds of up to 200 a minute.

We have adopted Europack because their machines are built to do the job, their appearance matches the high standards of a pharmaccutical environment, and

of an unsightly side weld on

the wrap are benefits of

The BVM Speedmaster:

sensor-controlled film

cut and no sealing bar

With the upgraded line, the lane divider feeds the bottles from the infeed into appropriate orientation and collations rather than letting them roll round each other as with Shrinkwrapper avoids side weld

speeds of up to 80 packs a

minute, the Speedmaster

from German manufac-

turer BVM is ideal for

shrinkwrapping the sort

of multipacks destined

for discount supermar-

kets and cash and carries.

There is no scaling

bar, but sensors

monitor the length

of film before it is

to shrinkwrapping.

Call on 0839 772268 or enquiry number (17-443)

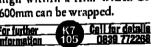
cut and folded under-

neath the collation prior

means that there is no side weld to obscure the contents and users can make savings on film.

There can also be a saving on tray materials with this system, through the use of low-wall trays and additional advantages of a firmly held pack.

Controls on the wrapper. which can be used for multipacks of bottles, cans or jars, can be manual or motorised, says the distributor (250 Thornton Road, Bradford, W Yorks - tel: 0274 391538, fax: 308953). Double or triple deck configurations up to 350mm high within a film width of 600mm can be wrapped.





The Europack line can handle bottles of between 200 and 600ml

we have excellent relations between the company's service engineers and our own staff," says Ben Davies, pharmaceutical operations manager at

Economy on film and the lack shrinkwrapper from BVM, tor WLT Ltd. Running at

says UK and Ireland distribu-

facturer singles out Europack's reliability of service and technical problem-solving skill as particular strengths. For further Call for details information 104 0839 772286

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A palletising system which uses layer trays rather than traditional cases is said to give savings of up to 50 per cent on corrugated board while stabilising the load.

Italian manufacturer Gruppo Elettric 80 has developed the robotic Pallet Pak system for regular shaped product. It places an oversized pad between pallet layers, folds up the sides and glues the corners with hot melt adhesive.

Pneumatic fingers fold up

پښتر As part of a drive to

cartons with board

ensured adequate flexibility

Ross has moved from

which minimised material, between products and provid-

reduce packaging mate-

rials, pharmaceuticals

dividers to packing its

the pre-creased board around the product - wrapped tissues, sugar, flour and cartons, for example - which is typically loaded in collations of 5 x 8, with pallet patterns varying according to the needs of the particular product. When the sequence of layers is complete, the finished pallet can be stretchwrapped for protection and further stability.

Different pallet sizes including the standard Europallet can be handled by

U-cards reduce material needs

ed a stable, goodlooking pack.

the system, which will place and glue layer pad trays with sides between 40 and 200mm high. One layer can be formed on average every minute. Format change is automatic.

When standard polletisation is required, the forming frame can be swung away on pneumatic arms, according to the company's UK agent, Notent Packaging Technology (Millshaw Park Avenue, Leeds LS11 OLR - tel: 0532 779504, fax: 780557).

Full programming facilities and axis control operate through a Siemens plc, with the ability to create layer patterns as required.



Cartoning and

### **Grouping for spreads** Conveying and grouping sys-

tems for Dairy Crest's spreads and butter have been installed by Dunn Systems, with a variety of case sizes and products channelled towards five palletising stations, four of them using robots.

Tubs of product are packed into cases of between five and 12 kg, and conveyed along high level conveyors before being transferred to an accumulating roller conveyor. Along seven lines, cases are

accumulated into groupings of the required number for entry UK sole distributor into the cooler, and transported Propack Automation in counted batches of similar product on a special conveyor. In the event of a breakdown on

Barcodes on each case are scanned before they enter the cooler, determining how each pack is treated at this stage and where it is sent afterwards. The five conveyors after

the cooler take product to one of the four robot palletisers or a hand palletising station. The Staubli RS 154 series robots will palletise a given product until no more reaches it on the infeed, when it will switch over to another. Each palletiser will accept at least seven cases a minute. While it has a small footprint, the four-axis system has a reach of 1500mm and can lift 40kg. (Dunn is at Smisby Road, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire LE65 2UR - tel: 0530 414444, fax: 411110).



CASE ERECTORS AND PACKERS

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#### BRIEFLY

GKN CHEP LTD (0932 850085 will now handle GE Plastics' pool of returnable plastics lbcs and pallets. The Gecon lbc and Gepal pallet were developed as eturnable alternatives to GE's e-way systems.

AIR PILLOWS can be produced r demand and used for dunage at a lower cost than other shioning with the Airfill 1200 system from Amasec Services (0203 367994). The pillows can be kept in a string if

IQQINS TEAPE Packaging (0256 723000) is joining forces with Astna UK to advise on stretchwrapping machinery as well as film. The company will also now supply automatic, semi-automatic and manual strapping equipment to complement its materials stocks

CORRUGATED CASES are now avallable in 30 different sizes from A1 Packagings Ltd (071-|987 6361) up to 610mm cubed in single or double wall versions. A1 also supplies the Rapidapak transit system.

AN AUTOMATED pallet produc-Checking of the barcode on tion system from Duc-Fast Ltd labels applied is also built into (0932 346698) means that prothe system. This prevents misductivity can be doubled, with labelling of pallet loads, with the potential for switching prothe scanner providing informaduction from one product to tion to compare with details other. Workbed angles can held in the unit's memory. be built in to suit the operator.

can take place in a single opera tion, says the company.

If there is a discrepancy. the scanner signals to the applicator to apply another label before the pallet is allowed to move on down the line.

The PARMX control system used on the Cimpak that the label adheres to an labeller, and also on the Cimjet print and apply labeller for traded units, can build up and then store a label image including barcodes while the previous label is being printed. This facility dramatically cuts the time the printer is idle, and Printing, applying and scanning enables it to reach speeds of

END OF LINE TO TRANSIT

250mm a second, labelling up to four pallets a minute. To cater for different user

needs, the design of the system includes a choice of applicator. modules to be added to the standard labelling head.

Options include single or twin axis heads, if labels are required on adjacent sides of the load. This is a more reliable system than turntables or wraparound, says Prestek (Highfields Science Park, University Boulevard, Nottingham tel: 0602-253220, fax: 430153).

Data for hundreds of label designs can be held in memory and accessed by a single code entered on the keypad. Alternatively, the labeller can be linked to a central computer database. Barcode label images can be generated using Prestek's own Composer software.

### Compact side loading sleever

straints on a food manufacturer's site led Endoline Machinery to develop an especially compact automatic side loading sleeve packer, fitting within just 1.5m

and adaptable as

a casepacker.

boost to its machinery design capabilities The equipment side loads and rotates the load through 90deg from the acquisi-

tion of the team from Advanced Design Systems, Endoline engineered the equipment which collates, side loads,

rotates the load through 90deg and ejects it for shrinkwrapping. The end user had found it

difficult identifying a company

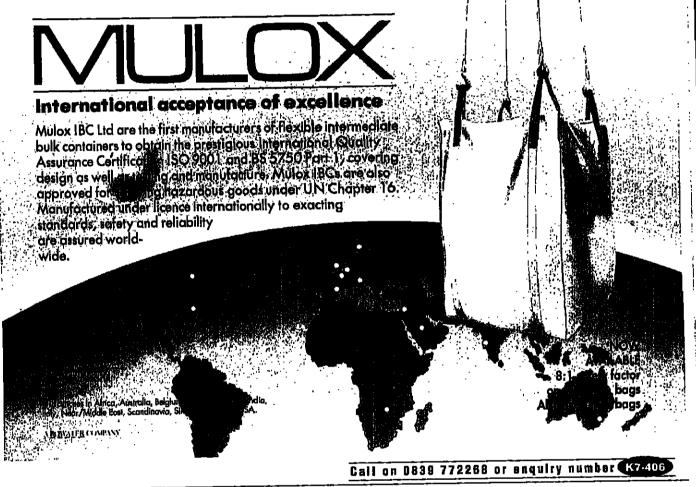
slat conveyor trans-

fers product to the machine. Once on the dead plate, the collation activates the product position switch. Sleeves are extracted from the magazine and positively erected.

The machine can also be adapted for casepacking, says Endoline (Stratton Business Park, London Road, Big-

gleswade - tel: 0767 316422, fax: 318033). Additional assemblies





#### bottled product on Three of these run in stretchbanded U-cards. line, and one is free-Complementing a standing for special lightweight version of packs and short runs. the standard round bottle used for almost all its liquid products, the company set out to find an end of line system One of the four Skinetta Kiener stretchbanders

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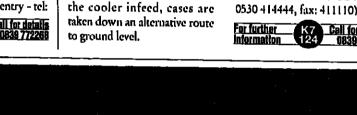
TOTAL DEDICATION TO CUSTOMER NEEDS"

CASE SEALERS AND CONVEYORS

quality, after sales service and pursuit of the corporate objective

overwrapping options were considered, but the solution chosen was an installation of four Skinetta Kiener ASK 450 stretchbanders.

Machinery (Binns Close, Torrington Avenue, Coventry - tel:



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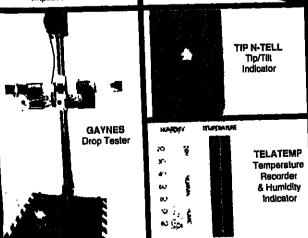
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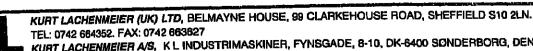


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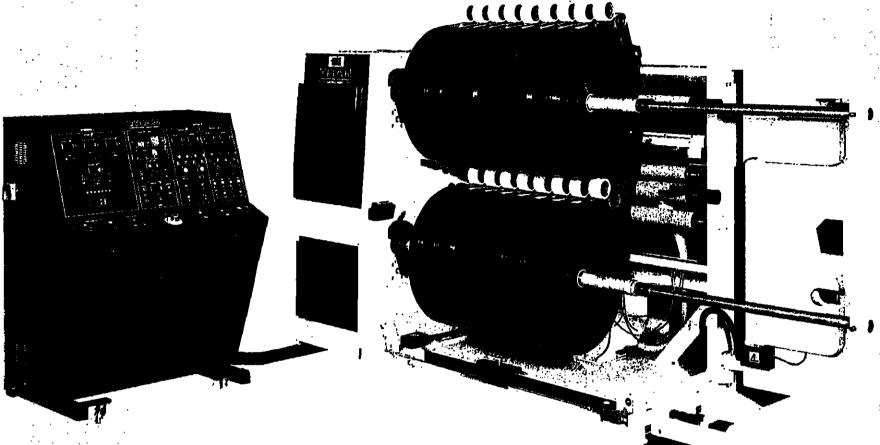
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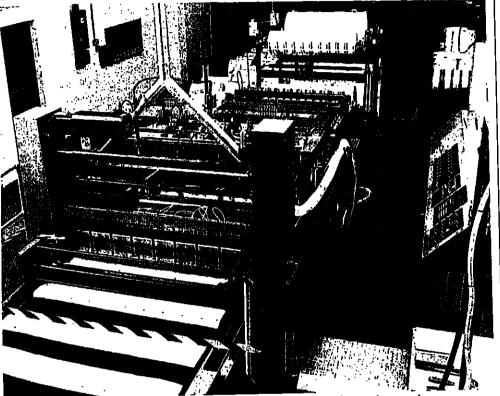
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# CONVERT



## **Envelopes at speed**

A 50 per cent increase in manufacturing speed is reported by Tenza Ltd's packing list envelope operation following the installation of a GN Packaging Equipment 54P machine - the

Tighter controls are another feature of the system, which has doubled the processing width possible to 13 lanes maximum and is now fully operational at Tenza's Saxmundham factory. The machine can produce over 100,000 envelopes an hour.

first in Europe.

#### Opted for wide web

Originally, Tenza had looked at a narrow web in-line printing and bagmaking system but con-cluded that, though high speed, the machine would not meet its requirements for sealing. Instead, the company opted for wide web conversion of the silicon coated paper and ldpe, which is preprinted on site.

In specifying the exact nodel of machine, Tenza says it learned from the experience of a

Britannia Road East, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L4W 4T2 - tel: 010 | 905 6700383. fax: 6700358). This version is wider, has a crush cutting system, and uses more servo motors for tighter control.

The slitting system leaves a nick which holds the web together for easier handling and manual packing at the outfeed. A servo-driven batch stacker counts out a preset batch size and then holds for indexing to off-loading. Access to the side sealers is

said to be good, an important feature for changeover which Tenza carries out an average of two times a day. The company estimates that changeover time will be brought down from around an hour to half an hour over a few months. Setup is through a ple which sets sealing times, lengths and speeds and monitors production.

### Selection system suits the needs of six-colour presses A six-colour selection and sepbe achieved by adding two

these give a larger gamut of

colours than do existing seven

colour high-fi models, says Mr

Herbert. It also avoids the need

for two-pass runs where com-

panies do not use seven or

More vivid

rendition"

The system will satisfy demand

for more vivid colour rendition,

while results are achievable on

current systems and presses.

The system, which has been

fully trialled with printers in the

aration system has been develcolours - orange and green - to oped by Pantone to take on a modified CMYK. Together the existing 'high fidelity' systems, which are less suitable for six-colour presses.

The Hexachrome system, which will span inks to separations and involve suppliers of proofing equipment and screening support, will aim to maximise the potential of sixcolour presses. There will be a particular focus on packaging printers and prepress, Richard Herbert, vice president of the electronic colour systems division, tells CW.

"We asked, how can we create the ultimate hi-fi colour system?" explains Mr Herbert. Best results within a six-colour

US, is due to be available in the UK from October or November, says Pantone (115 Sandgate Road, Folkestone, Kent - tel: 0303 259959, fax: 259830).

Cross-referencing between one medium and another is now possible with special software developed by the company. Having evolved industry/medium-specific palettes, Pantone has recognised the need to cross-reference and find the closest match to given colours. Good or commercially acceptable matches and those which need checking are indi-

Cross platform support of Pantone's open colour environment (poce) has also been announced. Consistent colour from scanning to printing will be provided whether Windows 3.1 is being used on a pc, or ColorSync on a Macintosh.

While the basic architecture supports RGB and CMYK colour models, extended models such as Hexachrome can be accommodated, says Pantone.



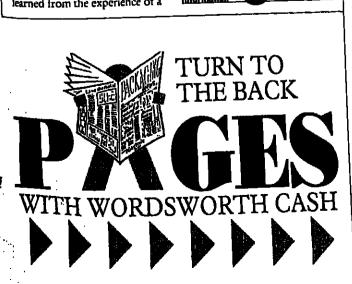
(Finat) "Label 2000 - Self-Adhesive Converting Towards the Next Millennium" is to be held at the Grand Hotel Brighton on 30 September 1994. For details contact Leigh Martins at the BPIF (071-242 6904)

"A CONVERTERS' QUIDE to the Environmental Aspects of Expanded Polystyrene" has been published by the BPF (British Plastics Federation) 071-457 5000). It explains terminology, grades, waste management options and Islation for the non-special-

lst. The BPF has also launched its UK business trends survey.

CORRUGATEU BOARD SALES this rate of GDP - an average 4.7 per cent since 1985 - the Stitlet Fibrebysic Packaging Association (0804-21002) reports, Corrupated has been ess badly effected by the repassion than other packag-ing materials, it says,

> PIRA URTERNATIONAL how has the results of its study into the performance of coated and uncosted papers during vari-ous printing processes. Among the achievements of the proine achievements of the pen-ject are indications of third trends in paper and print and the identification of relevant paper properties; cars Pira (0372 378161)





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BIELLONI, 6 COL., 1250 MM WEB, 1981
CMF MIRAGE, 6 COL, 1450 MM WEB, 1981
P & F 32 DF, 6 COL, 1450 MM WEB, WITH
OUTBOARD PYDC COATING STATION

FLEXO STACK CARRARIO, 4 COL 1060 MM WEB, 1970 MANZONI NEZA 704, 4 COL, 850 MM WEB,

1989 F&K 33 DF. 4 COL IN 6 COL FRAME, 1100

MM WEB, 1969 OMALFLEX 1200, 4 COL., 1250 MM WEB, 1988 MAF, SUPEREXPORT, 4 COL., 800MM, 1973 UTECO INLINE, 4 COL., 1280 MM WEB,

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ing, stacking to packing of the product, the machine can be used for oval, square, rectangular and other non-round containers at speeds of up to 9000 packs an hour. It is able to pack at the same speed as it prints, thereby saving on labour.

Size changeover times have been out to 45 minutes, enhancing efficiency. Plc control allows programs for four different containers to be stored. DM 185 has a number of

els. It has a central lubrication system for the gears so that the life of the gears is much longer.

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windows/DOS 3.07 hard disk.

ble) using 802867 processor, 1 ml

SOFTWARE

Guide has been extended to include NCR and arrwork sections together

with many more material and product options. The Short Run Print Price Guide gives details of 1-3 colour jobs in

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The area of the print group has its own motor so it can be agent Engelmann & Buckham, Buckham House, Lenten Street, adjusted independently, Marco Magnani, export manager at Alton, Hampshire GU34 1HH

print up to ten colours on both sides on cylindrical, square or unusual shapes and boasts fast changeover and throughput of up to 6000 pieces an hour. The Module DE can be installed in any position in the



line after the initial Master.

"The machine can also de

vignette printing by adjusting

the strokes of the oscillating

rollers, and can register plates

out of the machine due to the

OMSO presented two addi-

tional modules to its silkscreen

printer the Novax M/DE. I

incorporates uv drying systems

with digital control and

adjustable power output and can

optics" he adds.

A printing plate cleaner which cleans while the plate prints yet does not touch the plate and gives a uniform and clean print was shown by Danish firm Fresu a∕s.

Production output is ncreased by avoiding the time wasted in cleaning the plate and running in off register when the plate gets dirry. The cleaning system is mounted between the stereo and anilox ylinders. By using compressed air and micro fluid particles the system gives effective cleaning

It can be adapted to almost all types of printing machines where water-based inks are used, says Andre van den Berg

development department (UK office Polygraphica Equipment Ltd, T/A Milthorp, PO Box 56 Monickton Road, Wakefield W Yorks W1'2 7XA - tel: 0924 200444, fax: 363714). Tresu's cleaning system ha

been designed for use in pre print, post print corrugated markets and flexo printing. paper sack and tissue convert ing, where 70 per cent of machine stops are caused by having to clean the plates. The fastest system so far is

380 metres an hour. A system is needed for each cylinder colour, says Mr van den Berg.

**Glue system** memorises bu patterns

It offers a reduction of 40 per cent glue consumption, a constant positioning of the glue pattern, a reduction in reject boxes and higher effective production.

range of smart hot melt adhesive heads, with or without a filter cartridge. Slot coating, all possible with these multi-

PETALOID-BASE 1-litre pet bot-Sidei's compact SBO 2/3 says the company (010 33 35535800). The machine is only

4.1m by 2.2m. IMMEDIATE PLATE FEEDING and a better washout quality are among the upgrades on the Cyrel 1002P plate processing system from DuPont (0438 734317). The unit uses a double iain plate transport system.

THOMAS GOLDSCHMIDT AG market at 200m a minute. Thermocuring is too risky for such a sensitive product, says the

### PAPRO REPORT Off-line diecutting/cutting

creasing and gluing operation, Bobst showed its small-size automatic platen press running for the first time.

The Autoplaten SP76E diecutting and embossing press is designed for short runs off line, with performance determined by such features as the drive, registering and platen systems. With its 560 x 760mm format, the machine opens the doors to minimising prodution costs for short runs, says Bobst.

Smooth changeover between jobs is aided by the amount of off-press preparation that is possible. One operator can make the changeover. There is also an optional micrometer cutting plate

Centring and registration

Sample die-cutting and

printing without head

changing was demonstrated

by Data Technology with its

Sample die-cut and print

Data Technology's ColorJet il: print resolution is 180 dots an inch

without head changing

The Autopiaten SP78E discutting and embossing press from Bobst

highly accurate, with centring configurations include elevaand locking of the tooling tion with a platform or nonstop feeding and delivery. streamlined to a single process. Control is through an integral UK by Oscar Friedheim Ltd display and keyboard.

One aspect of the machine's flexibility is its ability to work with materials varying from light paper to solid and laminated boards. Possible

Carton samples can be

inkjet printed with a head

which fits onto the compa-

DATA TECHNOLO

ny's samplemakers and can be retrofitted to its own or other equipment. It is compatible with all cad and graphics formats, says the company (3, Weybarton, Byfleet, Surrey - tel: 0932 344061, fax: 342708).

Bobst is represented in the

(246 - 250 Waterloo Road,

London SE1 8RE - tel: 071-928

1363, fax: 071-928 9361).

Among the corrugated samplemakers available from Data Technology are the DT3000 and DT2200. They can work on sheets up to 3m x 2m.

### Productive tube cutting

Tube coming machinery, fitting into line after spiral winding, shown by Eberle sa included the latest addition to its range, the programmable Supra.

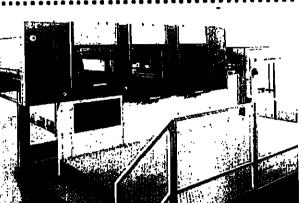
Key to the productivity of the Supra is its power, export manager Laurent Thomas tells CW, with 12kw driving the knives and making the system especially suitable for wider diameter and thicker cores.

Two models are available, covering the diameter ranges

70mm to 600mm. They can be placed after any spiral winder, says the company (2 avenue de l'Energie, BP 51, 67802 Bischheim, France - tel: 010 33 88336025, fax: 88623640).

One knife or a series of them can be used on either side. Only when the knives have been withdrawn will the base carriage move.

For further K7 Call for details of ormation 615 0839 772268



Flat-bed cutting, creasing and embossing systems shown by German company Wupa included the Magnatop PS 3.4 and 4.4 machines.

Variations of the 3.4 included the version with basic equipment and the fully automatic model with stacking and sheet separamade easier to use, says the company, represented in the UK by Edlon Machinery Ltd (Edlon House, Ashburton Grove. London N7 7AA - rel: 071-609 2266, fax: 071-700 4833).





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LWYRW, PACKAGING FILMS
ROTOMEC, 7 COL. 1000 MM, PACKAGING
FILMS
TECMO HELIO 306, 8 COL, 530 MM, 1976
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LAST UNIT WAX & COLD SEAL
ROTOMEC, ROTOLUX, 4 COL., 680 MM
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LINE 1 100MM.
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1900 MM CIRCA 1970 1200 MM, CIRCA 1877 W&H VARICOATER, SOLVENTLES, 1400 MM YVEB, 1861.

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DUBENBURY 800 KK, CENTRE SURFACE,
1800 MM WEB, FILMS
GOEBEL DUPLEX 1850 MM 1970
HARNDEN BA, 930 MM, SHEAR CUT, SINGLE RW, NONEXT FILMB AND LAMS
ELDEC PAPER SUTTER, 1150 MM
WEB, 1000 MM UNVIND, 800 MM REWIND
TITAN SRS, 1300 MM WEB, 1000 MM UW. BLITTING/BHEETING/EMBOSSI TITIAN SKO, 1300 MM WEB, 1000 MM UW.

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### Plate cleaner ups output from Tresu's construction and

of all types of plates.

\* metres a minute are possible

CT500, a microprocessor controlled glue application system which serves contact, non-contact or hot melt valves used in the production of corrugated board boxes, solid board boxes, folding cartons and envelopes was launched by Dutch firm

Containers Technics by.

It can memorise up to 50 glue patterns and offers the operator process information. Machine speeds up to 400

is very flexible, says Peter Klokow, general manager at with glue tolerances ±1.5mm. SHOWN BY ITW Dynatec was its

Flexible pc

web viewing

Described as a "total break

with the past", the Surveyor

Chroma web viewing system

was shown by PressTech Con-

trols, and presented as offering

Being a pc-based system it

a low price to features ratio.

The modular control setup gives possibilities to integrate glue presence control and glue position control and t calculate the glue consumption per production or order. It also provides a flexible interface to the existing machine control.

### Five graphs stored

Gijs Balser, managing director of Container Technics (PO Box 4, NL-8420 AA Oldeberkoop, Holland - tel: 010 31 05164-1941, fax: 05164 1925), tells Converting World that whereas on other systems if the speed is higher the glue pressure must be too, with this machine the operator can set the pressure and plot of a graph for it to follow. Up to five graphs can be stored.

jetting and surface spraying are are said to be more resistant to purpose heads, says the comflexo printing. pany (010 49 211 250020).

sizes is offered with the Improved on the machine.

6222) was Nyloflex FAH. Already uy loks than other plates in the

ties were shown being blown on showed applications of its radiation cured silicone technology. machine, which can mould up to These include 25 micron hape, 1200 bottles per hour per mold, radiation cured for the hygiene company (0908 582250).

GREATER VARIATION between

Nestle TERRY'S SUCHARD

MEVITIE'S

images and the running web. Up to four cameras can operate simultaneously, says PressTech (PressTech House, FRICTEC NEW TECHNOLOGY Maxted Road, Hemel Hemp-

stead, Herts HP2 7ED - tel: 0442 236655, fax: 232302).

PressTech, Germany. It has a

higher display resolution - 800

It offers options for com-

parison between reference

x 600 - than previous systems.

MONG PRINTING PLATE materi als shown by BASF (061-485 tested in Germany, the plates range, and ideal for halftone

Evoluzione 2000 bagmaker from Castaldini (010 39 51 700310). Sound proofing has also been

composite (TMC45) of special alloys with an ultra fine grain structure at the cutting edge and a tough interior to withstand impact. At leading manufacturers, Frictec composite packaging knives have proved to last many times longer than their HSS equivalent, without the loss of cutting quality associated with carbide edges. Typical applications include cutting paper, aluminium foll, cardboard, plastics and fibres, in a variety of industries.

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PACKAGING NEWS/JULY 1994 PACKAGING NEWS/JULY 1994

#### PAPRO REPORT

### Flexo plates wash out in soft water

Flexceed water wash-out flexo printing plates, that use a high technology material that washes out in soft water using a dedicated plate washer to reduce makeready time, are offered in the UK by Supratech Systems (Europe) Inc.

Flexceed plate washers remove unexposed polymer from the plate during wash out and filters it from the wash after trapping non-hazardous waste and recycling most of the water. A quantity of fresh water is introduced during the wash our cycle.

Most conventional solvent

wash out plates require a minimum of two hours for solvent evaporation while Flexceed is press ready within one hour in

lt is also ozone resistant and can be used on waterbased and solvent-based inks. It is available in two types, blue and violet and in a range of thicknesses and sizes, says Tom Price, md of Supratech (Roundwood House, 134-136 Lane End Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP12 4HX tel: 0494-459944, fax: 461777).

Water is fed in at 40deg C and has only one chemical additive added to it - 1 per cent of aluminium sulphate. Savings are thereby achieved through not having to dispose of solvents as well as providing obvious environmental benefits.

The Flexceed material has the characteristics of rubber and is therefore easy to handle and has good ink acceptance.

Mr Price says the performance of Flexceed is as good as a photopolymer but less impression is required and it has better solids area coverage. It costs more than solvent

plates but there are savings through time saved and reduced disposal costs. In addition, it is not odiferous, says the company. The biggest machine box at present is 75 cm. However 1m plus is planned in the US for later this year.

## **Low-cost cup former Solventiess laminator handles three layers**

BMP 200, a flexible cup former for producing round, oval and rectangular shaped cups in a variety of paper grades was revealed at the show by German Hörauf GmbH.

It is a lower cost machine, says the company and is meant to be less sophisiteated to give it wider market penetration. With a capacity of 160 to 200 cups a minute, adjustments on the machine are very fast.

Machines are supplied in the UK by Engelmann and Buckham Group (Buckham House, Lenten Street, Alton, Hampshire GU34 1HH - tel: 0420 82421, fax: 891193).



### **Wax-based inks to** aid sample cut-outs

Magic Printer, the first four colour printer to use waxbased inks for the printing of solid cardboard and corrugated board samples, made its debut at Papro from Lasercomb GmbH.

The machine is said to enable a company to present at the time of submitting a quotation sample cut-outs that already have the appearance of printed packaging, without the need to make up prints or plates.

"Converted into pixels"

The halftone pictures, logos and texts produced by the elecronic image processing system are transferred by the Post-Script program to the flat-bed rinter and are there converted into selectable macro pixels.

By using hot wax in place of liquid inks it is possible to print durable images directly onto all types of paper and other surfaces without the need for any special preparation.

### "High speeds obtainable"

similar manner to inkjet print ing so that high speeds are than inkjet, says the company. Each of the four colours is

applied by way of 96 nozzles Magic Printer has a resolution of heim/Teck, Germany - tel: 010



#### Finer control of coating weights, down to less verter has taken delivery of Polytype's first LF-Triplex than 1 micron, is marking the progress of solventless laminator, a coating and laminating machinery, particularly 1280mm wide machine able to provide a three-layer construcin solventiess work.

factor, compared with the alternative of two passes through a duplex machine, quality is equally significant, says Edlon technical director

#### "First layer reactivated"

"When a triple laminate is produced, the first adhesive layer can be reactivated during a second pass through the drying tunnel, leading to 'tunnelling' or de-lamination," he explains.

"Using solventless adhesives climinates this potential problem. However, to produce a triplex laminate in two passes on a duplex solventless machine involves considerable time, as the result of the rate of cure of these adhesives. They also have very low initial 'green' tack and therefore precise tension control in the sub-

strates is important."

Polytype's design, which sults in a machine occupying little more space than a duplex laminator, revolves around an integrated coating/laminating

Polytype's first LF-Triplex solventiess laminator: a three-layer construction in a single operation

cylinder layout that offers continuous web contact between the cylinders, so allowing close control of tension. Any vapours from the two-part

polyurethane adhesives employed are removed by an extractor fan in the housing of the coating unit.

The Amount of

Money

We paid out in Penalty clauses

last year

- CORTING AND LAMINATING SYSTEMS LTD

Polytype has also recently

completed a 2.4 metre wide solventless coating machine at its Italian factory.



Brattle, the self adhesive tape specialist, is now the UK's Exclusive Distributor of **SEALKING POLYPEEL,** the unique double-sided tape that's permanent on one side and peelable

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Four colours are applied in obtainable. Costs are about 30 per cent less than ink-based, but the cost of the machine is higher

423 x 292dpi, says Lasercomb (Austrasse29, D-73235 Weil-49 07023 70090, fax: 700944).

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### Variable width die can be retrofitted

An adjustable width extrusion die that also eliminates edge beads when extrusion coating polyethylene, so saving 2-3 per cent of polymer, is introduced by the Egan Division of John Brown Plastics Machinery.

An undisclosed European con-

tion in a single operation at

Developed initially with

he coffee packaging and simi-

lar high barrier material in

mind, usually with aluminium

foil as the inner layer, the LF-

Triplex machine has also

attracted considerable attention

from converters carrying out a

mix of two-layer and three-

laver solventless work, says

Polytype (UK agent Edlon

Machinery, Ashburton Grove,

London N7 7AA - tel: 071-609

Although the speed of a

2266, fax: 071-700 4833).

speeds up to 400m a minute.

Low weight, at 30lb/in, also allows the Series 361D die to be retrofitted readily to an existing machine without structural changes to the die support.

die, but certainly want access to the latest technology."

third the weight of its closest

competitor," says Egan (Bath

Road, Stroud, Gloucs GL5 3TL

- tel: 0453 762261, fax: 0453

750819). "Many customers are

not yet in the market for a

new line or a new expensive

### adhesives

DCM's Laminastar offers a choice of trolley-in coating heads, providing options for olventless adhesives.

machines, says UK agent Linro (Lowesden Works, Lambourn Woodlands, Newbury, Berks

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## 20~23 September 1994 **NEC Birmingham UK** or four days in September 1994, the European converting industry will gather at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre.

The reason is Convertex 94 a unique

exhibition of its type to be held at the UK

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accasion for the converting industry, and the only

readily regulated via a feedback control and can be used also to vary coating weight from a given gravure cylinder cell size by ± 50 per cent.

"This means that, for example, with a cylinder sized for 10gsm, pump pressure can be varied to give a range of 5-20gsm. The number of cylinders that may be required by a particular operation can therefore be reduced," points out Pagendarm's UK agent Simplex Turbulo (Wherwell Priory, Wherwell, near Andover, Hants SP11 7JH - tel: 0264 860186, fax: 0264 860180).

Pagendarni has also recently concluded an agreement with the Swiss manufacturer Bematec to install its gear-indie hot melt applicator systems on Pagendarm coaters.

pre-coated film are loaded at Laminating and die-cutting specialist First Move Finishers the side of the machine with in Milton Keynes has installed the web taken in via a turner the first of Lamtex Ltd's T720 bar. There is also an anti-curl

CONVERTING

in-line thermal laminators.

The sheet-to-sheet machine

has a maximum size range of

720mm wide x 1020mm long

and operates at speeds up to

65m/min depending on paper

size, weight and quality. For

operator convenience, and to

avoid heavy lifts, the reels of

pressure

Bottom feed dies, supplied

under pressure from a pump,

have been incorporated in the

Pagendarm Akkugravur 2000

coating system to improve

accuracy across the entire

Being pump fed, the pres-

sure within the system can be

width of the web.

First Move partner Gavin Leake says that demonstrations of the T720 on solid black stock were convincing. "We were impressed with the high gloss levels achieved. The machine could run at speed, with one operator, and the

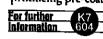
sheets were stacked nearly at the end of the jogger."

Finisher opts for thermal lamination

COATING AND LAMINATING

As well as the thermal laminator, seven types of waterbased laminating machines are built by Lamtex (Unit 3B, Westhorpe Fields Business Park, Green Lane, Westhorpe, Killamarsh, Derbyshire \$31 8BD - tel: 0742 510988, fax: 0742 510977). The company has also developed its own eva

mal lamination has become increasingly popular, panicularly since the price of film has fallen over the past five years. "Film thickness has also been reduced from 40 micron to 20 micron making the film more cost-effective. Larger numbers of manufacturers are now also producing pre-coated film."



Q Q \*

## Oxidation aids coating adhesion

water-based adhesives.

Ozonisers have been introduced by Sherman Treaters to oxidise polymer extrudates on extrusion coating lines, allowing lower die temperatures to be used without reduced adhesion to the carrier web. "Many modern polymers

are more easily extruded at lower die temperatures than those traditionally used, so at temperatures around 300deg C benefits are to be gained which warrant the use of ozonisers," says Sherman (Dormer Road, Thame Industrial Estate. Thame, Oxon OX9 3UW - tel: 0844 213686, fax: 0844 217172). Benefits include improved heat sealability, reduction of odour and off-taste and increased production speeds. In certain extrusion coating applications introduction of the ozoniser

can climinate primers.



herd Associates has introduced a 250mm wide unit for hot melt coating on laboratory or small production machinery. Application is via either

contact rollers or contactless from the die, while cold adhesives or polymers can also be handled, says Shepherd (16 Knowsley Road, Hoole, Chester CH2 3RL - tel: 0244

341283, fax; 0244 341283). Also produced by the company is a slow speed gear

**EX.** [2]

pump operating in the range 5-250rpm. Drive is from at explosion-proof motor with variable speed control. to inadequate data available.

The same situation exists in the USA. However, migration tests with opp/pe laminate at an independent institute, ISEGA, show safety for indi-

Solventless laminating adhesives have shown tremendous growth over the last five years. The promise of reduced curing times from days to hours is pushing the laminating adhesives manufacturers in a drive to be the first to lay what promises to be the golden egg.

Although water-based adhesives have also captured market share, the 30-40 per cent premium in costs and the limitations in performance mean that they are never going to be the ultimate alternative to solvent-based adhesives.

Instead companies are looking at uv and eb curing. At Papro in Germany for the first time Kroenert GmbH ran demonstrations of uv curing on foil and film and film/film with laminating adhesives from competitors Henkel KGaA with Herberts GmbH.

However, problems and converters will pay for.

The major stumbling block is US Food and Drug legislation and European Union (EU) legislation. Most of the additives being tested for uv curing are on the EU B list which means they are considered unsuitable for contact with foodstuffs due

Kroenert's machine is a rect food contact.

Once companies can convince the EU, development will really take off, but there is much uncertainty as to how long this will take.

Although

trials continue between the major adhesives manufacturers at their own r&d sites or with customers, one German converter, Sengewald, is now using uv

curing for

industrial

scale profes-

The compa-

ny is printing

in uv flexo and laminating in

uv with an adhesive from Her-

berts (010 49 02 02 529 2463)

as well as running trials with

uv-curable adhesives from dif-

While reportedly only for

general performance work.

after years of talk things look

as if they may well take off

Dr Ernst Kowasch of

Herberts admits there have

been problems with the lamps

and developments are under-

way to create lamps with a

308 wavelength, since this is

"With this wavelength

there is no infra-red and so

there is also no cooling system

needed," he explains. "At pre-

sent, the foil must be cooled on

He estimates that within

the cool roller tunnel."

sooner as opposed to later.

scepticism still abound. Where to place the uv lamps on the machines so that they do not overheat or bend the main body, the cost of the raw materials and how to get the adhesives to be not only general or medium-performance but high-performance too, at a cost

### 'Unsuitable for contact with foods"

better for the machine and the foil and stops it being distorted by the heat.

> two years secondary food packaging will use uv curing for laminating adhesives.

standard solvent free machine

The boom in solventless laminating

equipped with uv lamps from German manufacturer Adnos GmbH. Henkel's material was an aluminium/petp material while Herbert's was

a pp material.

Walter Andres, R&D manager at Kroenert (010 49 040 8539301), says companies are welcome to do trials at its centre on materials. He says that only small modifications are needed to existing machines.

Adnos marketing director Peter Stoetzer (010 49 040 606 4441) tells CW the secondary lamp unit on the Kroenert laminator can be moved in or out of the machine and is microprocessor controlled. As companies compete to

crack reduced curing times for high performance laminating adhesives, US adhesives manufacturer Morton has attacked the problem by another route. It is shortly to launch a laminating adhesive that does not require uv curing but it claims has the same results - reduced curing times using an external catalyst, Erwin Jochim technical manager packaging of Morton International GmbH (010 49 0421 64980) tells CW.

to solvent-based or waterbased. Only 1.5g/sq m are needed per coating as opposed to 2-3g/sq m for water based. have also

developed

adhesives

reduction

time in

curing

100 рег

cent sol-

presently

advan-

tages. The raw materials for uv

have not been listed yet and

they need appproval for every

single structure. Not everyone

is willing to pay the high

high-performance solventless

adhesive which uses an exter-

nal catalyst. You coat the film

with the adhesive and the sec-

and film will be coated with

the external catalyst just before

lamination is done so that

when they are stuck together

the catalyst accelerates the cur-

ing of the adhesive, thus

Henkel (010 490211 797

"The large scale future is in

8743) has developed a few pro-

totype uv curing laminating adhesives which it is trialling

manager at Henkel, tells CW.

"Although trials are under-

reducing curing time,

explains Mr Jochim.

with various clients.

"So we have developed a

price," says Mr Jochim.

and it is

The reason for solvent less

success is undoubtedly that less

coating is need in comparison

accept them. Also the raw materials are very expensive, substantially more than solvent less. Uv is easier than solvent less, it has a higher initial tack, faster curing and is suitable for barrier films. It also has the advantage of being a one component system so there is no mixing"

CONVERTING

### "When the time is right"

As Holden business manager Ian Lane, the UK adhesives manufacturer, tells CW, it too is conducting tests on uv, but in house. Mr Lane says it will launch a uv product when the time is right, ever mindful of EU lists and legislation.

He admits the firm is cautious about uv due to the odour and the cost of the raw materials. "We are not promoting these products because there is no-one to sell to at the moment."

Most research and development is undoubtedly being spent on enhancing the range of solventless laminating adhesives. Water-based is very much perceived as a temporary solution, and often a route taken by those forced to on environmental grounds. who do not wish to make a huge capital outlay at this point in time.

As the chemical limitations of water-based means that it tends to be used for pasta and snack food packaging and is of a general performance level. "There is no sense for

solvent free in flexible packaging," Dr Kinzelmann technical these products to change to uv. It is faster and cheaper using water based at present," says way, there are still lots of prob-Dr Kinzelmann.

**Noise at Work** machinery, and while the adhesives are not approved the REGULATIONS packaging industry will not AND THE SILENCE

**COULD BE DEAFENING!** PROHIBITION adds Dr Kinzelmann."

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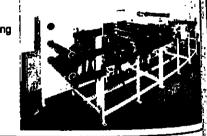


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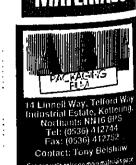
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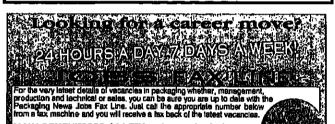
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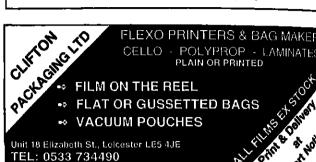
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